

# Attorney's role raises grave constitutional issue—judge

Chief of Appeal yesterday severely criticized that an individual could ask the courts to break the law. The Attorney General had first given his opinion. Lord Justice Lawton said that if that very grave constitutional situation arose.

## Chief of Appeal 'not trying to govern'

Berlin correspondent. The apparent action by a trade union to stop a strike by going through the courts was criticized by the Chief of Appeal. One judge described the action as a "grave constitutional issue". Lord Justice Lawton said that if that very grave constitutional situation arose.

## Speaker to rule on circular's criticism of Mr Silkin

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## Attorney attacks academic bid for royal warrant

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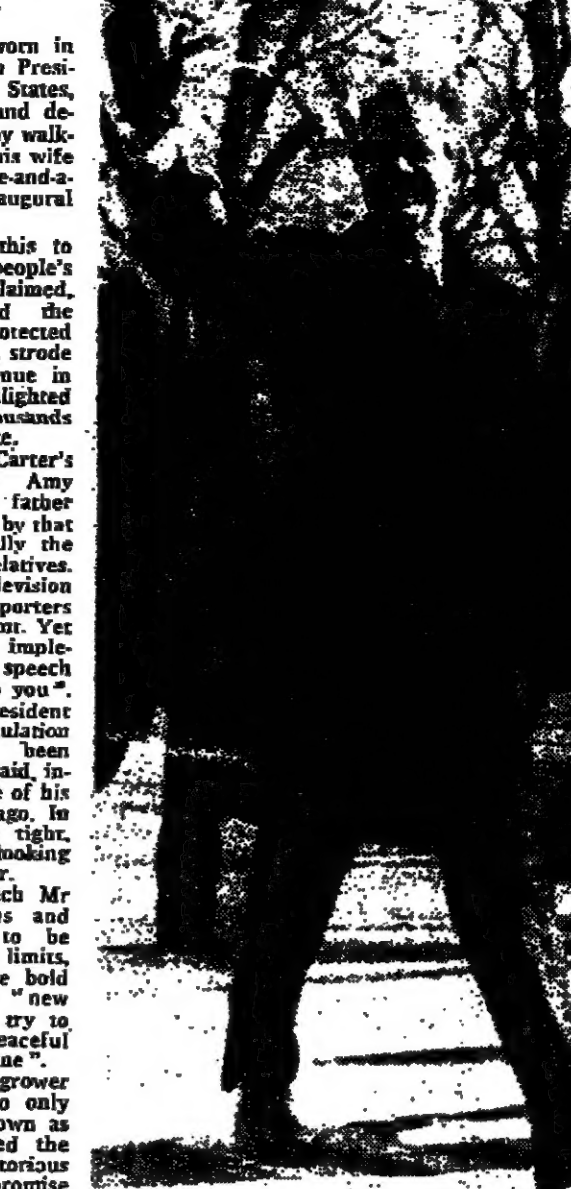
## Warning to the British

The British envoy, has been told that a "grave" situation exists in Rhodesia if his peace mission is rejected in Salisbury by the Prime Minister, who is expected to reach agreement with the nationalists.

# Mrs Gandhi lifts censorship of press

Delhi, Jan 20.—The Indian Government tonight lifted censorship on the domestic press and ordered a mass release of political detainees in moves to create a favourable atmosphere for the general election in March.

# President Carter makes his inaugural parade on foot



President Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, walking hand in hand down Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, after he had taken the oath of office.



President Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, walking hand in hand down Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, after he had taken the oath of office.

## Communists behind riots, Cairo says

From Robert Fisk, Cairo, Jan 20. In the aftermath of two days of anarchy in Cairo, Alexandria, Aswan and other Egyptian cities, plain clothes police today began arresting leading members of the small but illegal Egyptian Communist Party.

## Seven die in garment works fire

From John Chartres, Manchester. Seven people, all believed to be young women working overtime in a garment workshop, died last night when fire swept through a three-storey building in the Manchester city centre.

## Two 'rebel' PPSs are dismissed

By Our Political Staff. Two parliamentary private secretaries, Mr Jeffrey Rooker (Birmingham, Jeffery Barr) and Mr Joseph Dean (Leeds, West) lost their posts yesterday for voting against the Government in the devolution debate the previous day.

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## Communists criticize Czech action

By a Staff Reporter. The political committee of the British Communist Party spoke out strongly yesterday against the Czechoslovak authorities' move to destroy the emergent human rights campaign.

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### Richard Ellis



## HOME NEWS

## Public money unlikely for devolution referendum campaigns

By David Leigh

The Government is unlikely to give public money to campaigning organizations when it announces next month detailed plans for referendums on devolution in the EEC referendum £250,000 was given.

Several ticklish tactical difficulties confront ministers at present. They have to decide whether any means can be found to give expatriate Scots and Welsh a vote; it is unlikely that minds will be changed about the exclusion of England as such from a referendum.

Ministers also have to decide whether to offer a second question on the referendum ballot paper about separatism or further devolution.

Scottish National Party officials now think the prospect unlikely, Mr Stephen Maxwell, the party's information officer, writes in the latest issue of the Scottish political magazine Q.

A referendum on independence might be seized on by younger Scots at least as an opportunity of casting the ultimate protest vote.

The Labour Party will notice that the SNP will be forced to campaign in favour of devolution itself if they cannot urge their members to vote for separatism. "The requisite nationalist efforts on behalf of devolution will be forthcoming if independence is excluded as an option," Mr Maxwell says.

Field Cymru presented its own proposals yesterday to the Minister of State concerned with devolution, Mr Smith. It wants two questions, one on

whether the Bill is acceptable, and a further "consultative" question: "Do you also believe the present Act should have gone considerably further in granting Wales full national status?"

The party wants a count by constituencies. That method, or a count by local authority regions, is likely to be acceptable to ministers, who do not intend to suggest that Scottish and Welsh totals alone should be made available.

No decisions have yet been taken, and the Parliamentary Labour Party is to meet on Tuesday.

Meanwhile Conservatives are trying to reshape their Scottish Front Bench, given by devolution disputes and resignations. Unofficial soundings are being made with a view to putting one of the devolutionist rebels, Mr Alex Fletcher, on the front bench as deputy to Mr Edward Taylor, the fierce anti-devolutionist.

At the same time, front-benchers are contemplating the promotion of Mr Ian Sprouat, who is strongly against devolution.

Information clause: A group of Labour MPs have tabled amendments to the devolution Bill, trying to write into the constitution of the proposed Scottish and Welsh assemblies an "open information" clause.

"We see the proposal as being the foot in the door of more open government in the UK as a whole," Mr Jeffrey Rooker, MP for Birmingham Perry Barr, said yesterday.

## Bigger fines likely for breaches of planning law

By John Young

Planning Reporter

The Government is preparing to take stronger measures to prevent or penalize the abuse of planning regulations. In a confidential memorandum to local authority associations the Department of the Environment says it believes that better enforcement will save time and manpower and greatly reduce the number of appeals.

With agreement from the Home Office, the department wants to increase the maximum fine for offences from £400 to £1,000. It also wants to extend the application of stop notices to cover all breaches of planning control instead of, as at present, only certain engineering and building works and the use of land for tipping.

Wider powers to employ stop notices are also contained in a private member's Bill which Mr Dudley Smith, Conservative MP for Warwick and Leamington, hopes to introduce next Monday. The Department of the Environment said yesterday that it was supporting Mr Smith's Bill.

Among the offences most commonly mentioned are the use of waste land for unlicensed commercial purposes, such as Sunday markets and second-hand car sales, and the burning of refuse. The present enforcement procedure takes at least 28 days.

The need for stricter enforcement was emphasized by Mr George Dobry, QC, in his report on development control published in February, 1975.

## Man in the news: The Attorney General

## When Mr Silkin wanted to reduce privileges

By Our Political Correspondent

Steady nerves when under fire and the ability to lay down an effective counter-attack are attributes one would expect in a man who rose from the ranks in the Royal Artillery to become a lieutenant-colonel on the headquarters staff of XII Corps during the invasion of France. Mr Samuel Silkin, QC, who made that transition, has had good need of those qualities during his period of office as Attorney General since March, 1974.

From the beginning he was the target of both "big guns" and "snipers" from the right and left of the political front. Even his decision, with Mr Archer, QC, the Solicitor General, to decline the traditional knighthood that goes with their legal offices, was criticized on the ground that it detracted from their dignity and legal standing. With Mr Silkin got an assurance from Mr Harold Wilson before he accepted the office that a knighthood was "not a condition for the job".

Some would say that Mr Silkin, aged 58, has a dry and colourless personality, but he is an adroit lawyer. It must be a consolation to him now, when he is seeking to defend his discretion to act in the public interest and to defend the Government from the legal battles over Tameside grammar schools, the Laker Skytrain action, the Crossman Diaries, and some aspects of the Poulson case.

Perhaps the Clay Cross

brother, John, Minister of Agriculture and former Labour

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Mr Samuel Silkin: An ability to fight back.

affair put him in the most awkward position. He had given advice to the Labour Party when out of office that an Act to indemnify councillors who had refused to carry out the law over council house rents would contravene all constitutional practice and set a dangerous precedent.

Later, when Labour came to power, he was accused of supporting a Bill that, while it did not remove the penalties already imposed on the Clay Cross councillors, barred the imposition of further charges and removed the disqualification penalty. On the Crossman Diaries he was bluntly accused of attempting to suppress press freedom.

Although he is now

defending Parliament's powers

in the Court of Appeal, Mr Silkin led the campaign for a reduction in MPs' privileges. He was chairman of the Select Committee on Parliamentary Privilege, which recommended in 1963 that MPs who alleged that they were wronged by statements about them should take action through the courts and not rely on the punitive powers of Parliament. The report of it drafted by Mr Silkin, has been pigeon-holed by successive governments.

Mr Silkin, educated at Dulwich College and Trinity Hall, Cambridge where he obtained a double first in law, took his Bar examination while waiting to be called up in the Army. He obtained a commission in 1941 and later became a staff officer. In 1945 he was in France. He met Major John Grimond, "who always sent his regards in late", and Major John Foot (Now Lord Foot). He advanced with the Army to Hamburg, and soon afterwards was sent to the Far East, where he served in Ceylon and Singapore.

He joined the Labour Party in 1945 and was for six years a member of Camberwell council, part of the time as chairman of the planning committee.

Called to the Bar in 1941, he took silk in 1963. He was Recorder of Bedford from 1966 to 1971.

Mr Silkin has been MP for Southwark, Dulwich, since 1964.

## Students tussle on benefit

By Tim Devlin

Education Correspondent

The Government has cut down from its income more than 100,000 registrations, including the Christmas vacations.

It has decided to cut clause 13 from the Social Security Act, which was introduced by the Government in 1966. It would have meant that students on full-time courses would not have been eligible for supplementary benefit.

The Government's decision was put down as a three-party deal. The Bill, which was passed by the House of Commons, will be passed by the Standing Committee on Tuesday.

The move comes as a pressure from the Vice-Chancellors, the Union of Students, the Conservative Party, and the Liberal Party.

The amendment tabled in the name of Minister for Social Security, Mr Kenneth Robinson, would have meant that students on higher education would not have been eligible for supplementary benefit.

The Government

has an amendment to save it from paying in benefits to students according to Mr Robinson's amendment. The amendment is payment must take in the vacation element of the student's grant, which the amount is actual the student's part.

The amendment is opposed by the eight Tories and one Liberal members of the Commons. Mr Robinson might also be opposed by two of the Labour

## Transplant broke law, coroner says

The law was broken

when the kidney was removed, a coroner says.

Last night the Central Hospital, where the patient was carried out, although the required procedure was followed, it was not properly recorded.

Dr David Paul, the coroner, said at an inquest: "The law says the patient must give before the kidney can

be removed. Mr Robert Tunney, father, was asked, and said rather tactlessly a his son's kidney to be removed, and he gave

consent." The coroner said that when the transplant to but Mr Tunney told him that he was not in the death of his son until the next day, v telephoned to inquire a condition.

The coroner said the been broken because was certified after the plant, not before, and doctor on the team death instead of a senior not connected with the plant.

In a statement at inquest, the Central Hospital denied that a doctor was involved in the transplant.

The coroner emphasized there was no suggestion transplant affected the chances of David Tunney, 40, of Brixton, London, who died last October 4, of an accidental death.

turned.

## Criticism of TUC-Tory talks likely

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

Secret talks held earlier this week between Tory shadow ministers and top trade union leaders face strong political criticism at next week's meeting of the TUC General Council.

The opposition will not come solely from left-wingers. Moderates representing industrial unions which ran into serious conflict with the last Conservative Government, and the TUC leadership should have undertaken highly sensitive discussions with the Tories while the Labour Party is failing politically.

The chief objection is that the TUC General Council has not been consulted on the form, content, or standing of the discussions initiated on Monday by the Tory Shadow Cabinet and the TUC's team on the National Economic Development Council.

The political initiative is not expected to be repudiated outright but serious criticism is almost certain. The handful of left-wing members on the general council are likely to strongly attack the move towards rapprochement between the TUC and the Tory leadership during Labour's struggles to survive.

Soldier on death charge

Corporal Stephen Merdin Wadge, aged 23, stationed at Ballykelly, near Londonderry, was remanded in military custody until March 22 in Londonderry yesterday charged with unlawfully killing Robert James Gallagher, aged 40, of Ballykelly, on Wednesday.

## Ombudsman criticizes minister

By Martin Huckerby

A Minister of State at the Home Office took heavy and ill-judged action in banning the activities of a man running an immigrant advice centre for Cypriots, Sir Idwal Pugh, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman), says in his quarterly report, published yesterday.

Although he was not named in the report, the minister at the time handling immigrant affairs was Mr Alexander Lyon, Labour MP for York. Sir Idwal took over as Prime Minister.

Sir Idwal says he has no doubt that the minister's instruction, in August, 1975, that the Home Office should withdraw all facilities from the complainant was made from a desire to protect immigrants from exploitation. The minister believed that the complainant had taken money from Cypriots

for a service they could obtain by right without charge.

However, Sir Idwal says: "The evidence which was held to justify such a serious step was not fully established and the minister was expressed without full consideration of the problems it might create for the Home Office and for the immigrants themselves." He says that later developments forced the Home Office first to modify its policy towards the complainant and eventually to decide that it could no longer distinguish between him and other paid agents or intermediaries in the immigrant field.

The complainant told the Ombudsman that the ban had been imposed in order to put him out of business, and that the minister had taken upon himself to deprive a British citizen of his livelihood. Personal feelings had been translated into an arbitrary use of power.

Permission given for legal action over demolition

By Robert Parker

The Attorney General yesterday gave his consent for court proceedings to be taken against Lambeth Council, London, which on Wednesday began demolishing 48 houses in St Agnes Place, Kennington.

The council and a contractor were stopped from further demolition by the issuing of a High Court injunction. By that time 10 of the houses had been destroyed, and others damaged.

The Attorney General has been involved because of the council's legal standing of three ratepayers who want to ask the High Court to decide whether the council's plans for demolition are unlawful.

His consent was granted on condition that £500 costs are guaranteed for each of the three ratepayers, and that the matter is reviewed on Tuesday, when the injunction expires.

Lambeth council's plans to demolish St Agnes Place were approved last July and reaffirmed earlier this month. But since then an architect's report has said that the houses could be rehabilitated, and 27 of the 48 members of the council-controlled council want the demolition plans reconsidered.

The chairman of the local neighbourhood council together with the chairman of two others, wrote to the council yesterday, advocating rehabilitation of the houses.

Leading article, page 15

MP asks why plutonium is sent by road

By Our Science Editor

The Government has been asked why plutonium nitrate is allowed to be transferred by road from Dounreay in the north of Scotland to Windscale, Cumbria, when transport of the same nuclear material is forbidden in the United States for reasons of safety.

Mr Peter Rost, Conservative MP for Derbyshire, South-east, has raised the question with Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy. Plutonium nitrate has been produced in small quantities at Dounreay in the reprocessing of nuclear waste from experimental fast-breeder reactors.

Spent fuel from the reactors contains a mixture of uranium, plutonium and fission products. An associated front end will move slowly NE across the British Isles. Forecasts for 6 am to midnight: London, SE, E England, East Angles, mostly cloudy with outbreaks of rain; wind SE, fresh, becoming S, light; max temp 6°C (43°F).

Britain abroad

Sue Reid describes the work of the British Council in Spain in the first of a two-part special report on the council, in *The Times Higher Education Supplement* today. David Dickinson talks to Barry Commoner, and Brian Potts reviews an important new study of Vorticism.

## IRA bombs damage rebuilt Belfast department store

From Christopher Walker

Belfast

Provisional IRA bombs badly damaged Belfast's new Co-operative store yesterday exactly a week before a big reopening scheduled to follow its rebuilding after an IRA attack five years ago.

The 270,000 sq ft building housing the largest British department store outside London was handed over by the contractors earlier this week.

Damage estimated at £10m was caused in the attack in May, 1972. Yesterday's three explosions and fire damaged the structure and stock. Unofficial estimates put the cost at a further £1m.

A caller to the BBC claimed responsibility for the attack on behalf of the Provisional IRA. He said it had been mounted in retaliation to a speech earlier this week by Mr Gordon Smyth, newly elected president of the Belfast Chamber of Trade, who called for a new British initiative against the terrorists, whom he described as "rats and scum".

A Staff Reporter writes: A complaint about prison officers in Northern Ireland, made by relatives of members of the Provisional IRA, has been found to be justified by Sir Idwal Pugh, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman).

In his quarterly report, published yesterday, he said several women had complained that prison officers had refused to allow them to visit their relatives who were Provisional IRA prisoners at the Maze prison, Long Kesh.

He said the women had a justified complaint, but he pointed out that the action by the officers in withholding the special privileges from the prisoners had been made in the face of grave provocation: the Provisional IRA had threatened the lives of Northern Ireland prison officers, and one officer had later been murdered.

Weather forecast and recordings

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars. FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded

NOON TODAY

Today

Sun rises: 7.54 am Sun sets: 4.31 pm

Moon rises: 3.25 am Moon sets: 7.20 pm

First quarter: January 27

Lighting up: 5.1 pm 7.23 am

High water: London Bridge, 2.44 am, 7.0m (23.1ft); 3.10 pm, 7.3m (23.9ft)

Low water: London Bridge, 2.44 am, 7.0m (23.1ft); 3.10 pm, 7.3m (23.9ft)

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY TODAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

Abertillery 12.7, Cardiff 12.7, Glasgow 12.7, London 12.7, Manchester 12.7, Newcastle 12.7, Nottingham 12.7, Oxford 12.7, Plymouth 12.7, Reading 12.7, Southampton 12.7, Swansea 12.7, Tyneside 12.7, Wakefield 12.7, Wolverhampton 12.7, York 12.7

Central S, central N England, Midlands, Channel Islands: misty at first, bright intervals, but showers may be heavy and prolonged; wind S, moderate; max temp 7°C (45°F).

SW, NW England, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, N Ireland: bright intervals, occasional heavy showers, perhaps prolonged; wind S, fresh; max temp to 8°C (46°F).

SE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray: bright, outbreaks of rain, perhaps sleet on hills; wind SE, strong, then S fresh; max temp 5°C (41°F) to 43°F.

SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll: outbreaks of rain, sleet on hills, some bright intervals; wind mainly S fresh; max temp to 6°C (41°F) to 43°F.

Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: dull and rainy, sleet or snow on hills; wind SE, strong, then S fresh; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday

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## Tabloid 'Express' will aim for the young

By Peter Godfrey

Fleet Street will witness the unusual spectacle of a national newspaper printing at least half a million extra copies on Monday, when Beaverbrook Newspapers stakes its history and its future on the success of a new tabloid *Daily Express*. It inherits a circulation of 2,600,000.

Heretofore by a characteristically extravagant television advertising campaign this week-end (cost £300,000), the smaller size paper will set out to stem a decline in circulation, which until recently was running at a potentially fatal 12 per cent annually. It will also shake off the leash of its old buldog image to pursue a more sensitive commitment to modern issues and their solution.

The editorial policy of the new *Express* is designed specifically to attract younger readers. "For the newspaper's commercial future, its bias needs to be towards the young," Mr Roy Wright, the editor, said. "People still associate it with Britain's position

within the Empire 30 years ago, but it must now concern itself with issues somewhat more relevant than Empire free trade."

He acknowledges that some disenchanted *Express* readers may fall by the wayside. The retention of the newspaper's front page crusader symbol, which long ago received its comeuppance from *Private Eye*, is a concession to its traditionalist spirit, although his sword will be brandished in new directions.

It would be disastrous if the paper suddenly turned all trendy, Mr Wright said, making an indirect snipe at the *Daily Mail*, "but it will seek to mirror the aspirations and be conscious of the daily problems of the growing class of skilled industrial workers in this country."

Competition for "middle ground" readership with the *Daily Mail*, which boasts a rising circulation of 1,800,000, will intensify. "If either paper becomes enormously successful,

there may well be no room for the other one," Mr Wright said.

His view is perhaps shared by Mr David English, editor of the *Mail*, who said: "We will just go on producing a better paper."

Despite the *Mail's* implacable response, a spate of promotional activity suggests that it is taking the *Express's* new challenge seriously. (Beaverbrook's *Evening Standard* is already locked in combat with the *Evening News*, the *Mail's* stablemate.)

The tabloid *Express* will feature serializations of new books, beginning with another biography of George Bernard Shaw, and will carry regular four-page supplements on family finance and entertainment. A series for younger readers entitled "Living Together" is seen as symptomatic of the paper's new approach.

Charles Wainwright, its managing director, said: "We will not hold back in dealing with the emotional and sexual problems of the young."

## Setback for 'Chorus Line' as Equity bans American

By Kenneth Gosling

The management of *A Chorus Line*, the American musical at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, is expected to announce today that the show will close on Monday to allow time for one of the leading parts.

Mr Michael White, the producer, said last night that he was stunned by the decision yesterday of the council of Equity, the actors' union, to oppose "with all its power" the granting of permission for Donna McKechie, the American actress, to fill the part of Cassie temporarily when the British cast takes over from the American, which has played to packed houses for six months.

The decision reversed an earlier one by the union's executive to allow Miss McKechie to appear for a maximum of a month after the dismissal of Elizabeth Seal, who is British.

Mr White had earlier discussed what would happen if Equity decided to oppose Miss McKechie's appointment. "It leaves us one working day and the weekend," he said, "and we cannot open on Monday."

Although the show has been successful, it still not recovered its £300,000 production costs; that would take another three months, Mr White, who had said earlier in the week that the show might have to close for a fortnight, said: "An empty dark theatre is very hard to recover from."

He also said that his future as a producer would be uncertain. "If the show does not go on next week I cannot see how I can survive as a producer, because there is an awful lot of money at stake here."

£26,000 is left to Jesus for Second Coming

Mr Ernest Digweed, a retired teacher, who died last year at the age of 81, left his estate of £220,000 net to the nation in the form of the Lord Jesus Christ in the event of a Second Coming.

The will says the whole estate should be invested for 80 years. "If during those 80 years the Lord Jesus Christ shall come to reign on Earth, then the Public Trustee, upon obtaining proof which shall satisfy them of his identity, shall pay to the Lord Jesus Christ all the property which they hold on his behalf."

Mr Digweed, who lived in a small terrace house in Samuel Road, Portsmouth, had no known relatives.

The accumulated interest on the £26,107 is to go to the Crown after 21 years. Mr Digweed's will states that if Christ has not appeared within 80 years the whole of the estate shall go to the Crown.

## Solicitor jailed for theft of £121,000

David Atchley, a solicitor, was jailed for three years by Bristol Crown Court yesterday after



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## NEWS

## Oxford faces 30 per cent increase in intake of medical schools

Correspondent  
The Oxford University Medical School is facing a 30 per cent increase in its intake of students in 1978, according to a report by the Times Higher Education Supplement.

## Doctors say X-ray testing lead to breast cancer

Medical Correspondent  
Breast cancer is the leading cause of death among women in Britain, and doctors are warning that the use of X-ray testing for early detection may lead to an increase in the disease.

## Gunmen

53,677  
Gunmen yesterday shot at the wages office in a British Steel Corporation plant near Barrow-in-Furness, Lancashire.

## Challenge over national insurance investments

Correspondent  
MPs have challenged the government's policy of investing national insurance funds in the stock market, claiming that the funds are being lost.

## Admission to colleges on foreign students

of The Times  
The London Education Board has announced that it will accept a 25 per cent increase in the number of foreign students admitted to its colleges.

## Union leader proposes 15 per cent increases

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor  
Pay rises should keep pace with inflation in the third round of the income policy, Mr. John Lyons, general secretary of the Electrical Power Engineers Association, says in the latest issue of the union journal.

Correspondent  
The Electrical Power Engineers Association has announced that it will accept a 15 per cent increase in its members' pay for 1977-78.

## Tory backing for sharing of resources and teachers

By Our Education Correspondent  
Most parents who send their children to private schools are not rich, but the one means who are making sacrifices for the welfare of their children, Mr. Norman St. John-Stevas, MP, opposition spokesman on education and science, said in London yesterday.

## Navy abandons scheme to improve missile

By Henry Stanhope  
Defence Correspondent  
The Royal Navy has been forced to abandon a missile improvement programme to accommodate some of the £100m cut in the defence budget for 1977-78.

## Dismissed union rebel wins right to benefit

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Staff  
A man dismissed after refusing to join a trade union under a closed-shop agreement has won a crucial appeal to the Chief National Insurance Commissioner against being denied unemployment benefit.

## Van drivers worried about jobs

Fear that bread-price war might eliminate small shops

By Hugh Clayton  
Agricultural Correspondent  
Ministers fixed the price of bread because it was "an important element in the cost of living, which the Government wants to keep as steady as possible". That was said in 1941 and illustrates the long history of political intervention in the baking industry.

Although many people cannot speak of "standard" bread without cursing it, more than half the bread made in Britain is sold in that sliced and wrapped form. Almost two-thirds of our bread is sold by grocers, not bakers.

Mr Lyons argues that the Chancellor's tax concessions last year were of no help to technical and middle-management staffs, who have suffered an "enormous" cut in living standards over the past three years.

## Bread price ceilings fixed by the Government

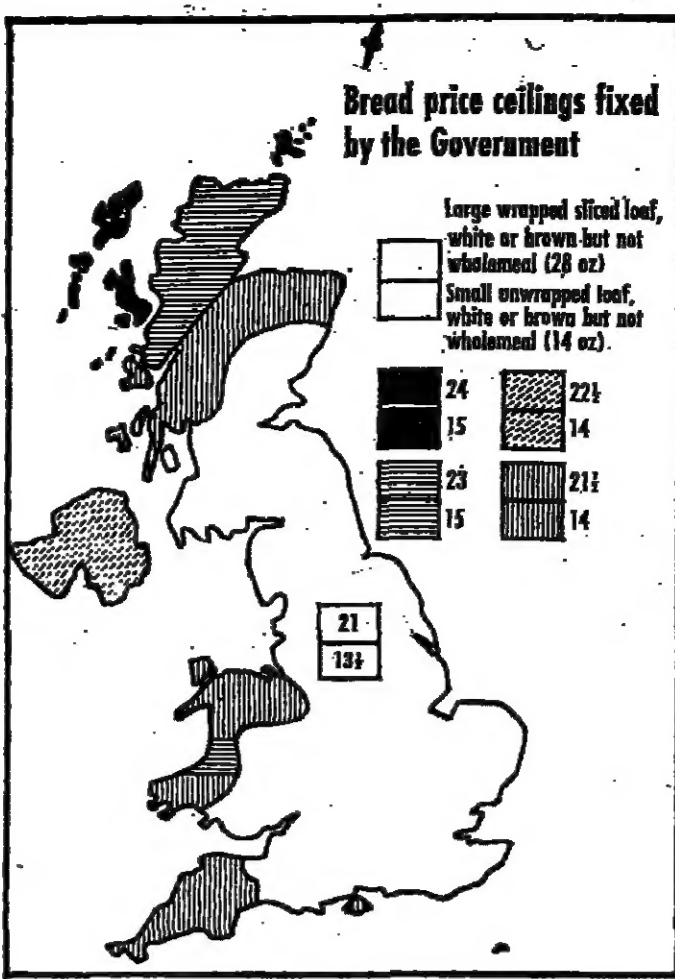
Large wrapped sliced loaf, white or brown but not wholemeal (28 oz)  
Small unwrapped loaf, white or brown but not wholemeal (14 oz)  
24 22 15 14 23 21 15 14

## Van drivers worried about jobs

Why are van drivers in the United Road Transport Union pushing up the price of such bread when the leaders of the trade union movement tell ministers that restraint on prices, especially of food, is an essential component of a social contract that includes wage curbs?

## Dismissed union rebel wins right to benefit

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Staff  
A man dismissed after refusing to join a trade union under a closed-shop agreement has won a crucial appeal to the Chief National Insurance Commissioner against being denied unemployment benefit.



but would also have made it impossible for small grocers to sell "standard" bread at prices to match those in the most competitive supermarkets.

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On all points Mr. R. J. A. Temple, chief commissioner, has found in his favour and says he should get unemployment benefit. The decision overturns a local tribunal's findings and was made despite a strong submission by an insurance officer that refusal to comply with the closed shop was misconduct.

That submission, which is implicit in the chief commissioner's findings, said the man provoked his employer to dismiss him; that he had made himself unsuitable for his job; that he was blameworthy because he caused himself to become a potential charge on the National Insurance Fund.

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"Basil...who's that talking to Aléc?"



KP

The lovable nuts.



## WEST EUROPE

# Chief judge dismissed in Baader-Meinhof trial for showing bias

From Dan van der Var  
Bonn, Jan 20

The presiding judge in the Baader-Meinhof terrorism trial, the most controversial criminal case in West German history, was today declared by his fellow-judges to be biased and was discharged.

This astonishing development, exactly 20 months to the day since the trial began in a specially fortified courtroom at Stammheim, Stuttgart, comes as an even greater shock than the suicide in prison of a principal defendant, Ulrike Meinhof, last May.

The judge, Dr. Theodor Prinz, 62, was seated from the presidency by his eight colleagues on the second panel of criminal judges at the Baden-Württemberg state high court. He will take no further part in the case.

Ten days ago Judge Albrecht Meyer, the Federal judge who would have dealt with any appeal in the case, was relieved of his duty after a complaint that he had infringed a judge's duty of confidentiality.

Today's dismissal was the result of a motion alleging prejudice on the part of Dr. Prinz, lodged earlier today by a lawyer defending another principal accused, Andreas Baader. It was the eighth such motion against the judge in 174 court days since the trial began on May 20, 1975.

The deputy president of the court, Judge Gerhard Fock, who took over from Dr. Prinz immediately, said in giving the ruling of the court that it was not a question of whether Dr. Prinz was biased or felt himself to be so.

It was more a case of reasonable doubt among the defendants about his impartiality being justified. Dr. Prinz's remark to a lawyer in the case that the court's attitude to a discharge motion on grounds of bias depended on which defence lawyer lodged it—the grounds for today's defence complaint—inevitably meant that the accused could doubt his impartiality.

The dismissal of the president will make it necessary to interrupt the proceedings. Throughout the case, four reserve judges of the second criminal panel have sat in court following the evidence, in addition to the five actively handling the trial.

This precaution, which justified itself today, was to ensure that the trial would not be interrupted or broken off if one or more of the five judges on the bench became incapacitated through death, illness or other cause.

Dr. Prinz's conduct of the case has always been the subject of fierce controversy, not only among defending lawyers and the accused, but also among outside observers. Even West Germany's leading intellectual weekly and arguably the country's most respected journal, was moved to ask in a headline last August: "How biased is Prinz?"

The subbing on the article went even further: "Why the court president must be discharged." Contempt of court is nothing like the detestant in Britain, and many powerful newspapers of all persuasions have repeatedly attacked Dr. Prinz's conduct in court.

This unseemly controversy surrounding a judge in any event caused the judicial authorities unprecedented embarrassment, brought not only Dr. Prinz's court but also West German justice into disrepute.

Dr. Prinz was promoted from a lower court above more senior judges just before the case was due to begin. Accusations that he had been biased specially for the case because he was a keep-fit enthusiast, or because he was regarded by authority as a yes-man, have been consistently denied.

In his conduct of the trial, Dr. Prinz demonstrated sufficient ability to assert personal authority over a team of decidedly disrespectful defending lawyers. The scenes which so often took place in his court would have moved a British judge to the heights of judicial wrath.

His querulousness and constant petty interruptions of the defence led some German observers to conclude that he was not psychologically equipped to handle the most difficult trial ever staged in a West German court.

The discharge of Dr. Prinz should be the final crisis in the trial before the verdict itself. The giving of evidence is over, and the prosecution is expected to make its final statement soon.

It has already asked for life sentences on the three surviving defendants—Andreas Baader, Gudrun Ensslin and Jan-Carl Raspe—for alleged involvement in the murder and belonging to a criminal association. Holger Meins, the man who was to have been the fifth defendant, died after a hunger-strike well before the trial began.

He remained there to see their dream come true. After the flag was hoisted, some of the crowd broke into chanting: "Basque flag yes, Spanish flag no", voicing aspirations of those who want complete independence and just autonomy from the Spanish state. The crowd jumped up and down shouting: "Anyone who does not jump is a fascist." Everyone jumped.

The shouting of pro-independence slogans, waving of placards and shouting of car horns went on into the small hours of today. No incidents with the police were reported.

Harry Debelius writes from Madrid: Political tension dominated the news in Spain today with the civil governors of two Basque provinces resigning in protest against the announcement of widespread use of the Basque flag, symbol of home rule aspirations.

The governors of Vizcaya and Guipuzcoa, the two coastal provinces of the Basque country, handed in their resignations yesterday, according to reports published in Madrid.

In Madrid, the kidnappers of Señor Antonio María de Oriol, the president of the Council of State, gave a curious indirect answer to the Government's threat that nothing would happen to their hostage even if the Government continued refusing to meet the kidnappers' demands.

In a new message delivered to the Madrid newspaper El País last night, the self-styled First of October Anti-Fascist Resistance Group (Grapo) said: "We have more than enough patience to carry this matter to the end... without any necessity of executing our prisoner."

Life for child killer in guillotine controversy

Troyes, Jan 20.—A self-confessed child killer, whose trial was used as a rallying point by abolitionists, was sentenced today to life imprisonment for kidnapping and murder. He is Patrick Henry, a salesman, aged 23.

M. Robert, the defence lawyer and leading opponent of the guillotine, had made a last plea to the jury here. "Do not cut him in two. It will deter nobody," he said.

Three Government ministers, including M. Ponsard, the Interior Minister, had publicly joined in a plea for "an exemplary punishment" and 200 people outside the courtroom booed when they heard the sentence. "Justice is rotten," they cried.

M. Henry had admitted strangling the boy with a silk scarf while he was being held captive for a £130,000 ransom.

Floods kill seven

Jakarta, Jan 20.—At least seven people died here in floods which swept the city after torrential rain, officials said today.

# Debre attack on direct elections to Strasbourg

From Our Own Correspondent  
Paris, Jan 20

On the same day that Mr. Edward Heath, the former Conservative leader, put in yet another forceful plea for direct elections to the European Parliament, M. Michel Debré, the former French Prime Minister, described the plan as "ill-conceived, ill-prepared, unclear in its consequences and, as such, an intolerable attack on the independence of the republic."

Mr. Heath spoke at the presentation ceremony of the Adolphe Benckiser Prize, awarded for the most notable contribution to European union, to M. Jean Monnet, the "father of Europe". M. Monnet, who is 87, was not present at the ceremony because of his delicate state of health and the prize was received by his daughter.

Mr. Heath stated: "Only when the people of Europe know that they have direct representation in the European Assembly will they feel that the community is aligning itself more closely with their needs and aspirations."

Mr. Heath acknowledged that over the last two years, the European Community has lost its momentum. The high hopes held of enlargement have not been fulfilled. We have made all too little progress along the path outlined at the meeting of heads of government in Paris in October, 1975.

"The establishment of a new Commission, under a new presidency, a new chairman of the Council of Ministers, a new chairman of the European Council, can enable us psychologically, as well as politically and practically, to make a fresh start," he stated.

He suggested that while economic and monetary union were out of reach, the Community should concentrate "on rectifying the existing imbalances which have prevented us so far from achieving it."

It should, in spite of economic difficulties, be able to move forward in the formulation of a common foreign policy, and develop its common procurement for the defence services.

But in the political field, he said, "no change is more urgent or more real than the need for direct elections."

Our purpose must be jointly to create a more democratic Community."

M. Debré, the former Gaullist Prime Minister, who announced the creation of a "committee for the independence and unity of France", headed by prominent personalities from politics, literature and journalism, emphasized that the adoption of proportional representation for the European elections would bring about not a Europe of *des patries*, but a Europe *des patries*.

These elections could turn out to be "the third ballot of presidential elections for an unsuccessful candidate who might be tempted to head a list for European elections."

The error, in his view, was to dig up a provision of a treaty signed 20 years ago and try to apply it at a time when the Community was falling apart, and was increasingly dominated, economically and monetarily, by West Germany.

The choice, in his view, between the creation of a Community of European nations, each preserving intact their independence and sovereignty, which did not exclude a practical solidarity in many fields; and a European "ideology and theology" if the latter prevailed, France would become the Quebec of Europe.

"We are Europeans," he added, "but the first contribution we can make to the power and grandeur of Europe is the power and grandeur of France."

As it was impossible to drop the idea of direct elections at this stage, which would have been preferable, he proposed the signing of an additional protocol to the Rome Treaty specifying that the sole competent authority in the Community was the European Council of heads of government, "the sole expression of national legitimacy."

"An end must be put to the ambiguity of a Commission, which is not a government, responsible to an Assembly which is not representative," he declared.

Our Political Editor writes: Leading opponents of British membership of the EEC, in concert with M. Debré, yesterday launched a M. Debré, yesterday launched a Commons against any Government Bill later this month to provide for direct election of the European Parliament in May or June next year.

Mr. Bryan Gould, Labour MP for Southampton, Test, challenged the argument that there was a British commitment to direct elections to the European Parliament under Article 138 of the Treaty of Rome or as a consequence of the referendum on EEC entry. The decision rested with Parliament at Westminster.

The killers left a note suggesting that they were members of the extremist Baader-Meinhof terrorist group and that the murders had been a blow struck for Herr Andreas Baader, now on trial in Stuttgart.

The victims were a bank manager, his wife, and their three children, aged 16, 11 and six.

Police said the manager had telephoned his bank asking for the ransom money to be brought to the house. Two of his children did as he asked—Agence France-Presse.

Kidnappers free child

Rome, Jan 19.—Sara Domitila, aged four, kidnapped on December 30 at Allassio, was released by her captors last night on the outskirts of Novi Ligure. There are reports that a ransom of £2,000 (L.14m) was paid.

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# Criticism of decision to stand for mayor of Paris

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, Jan 20

M. Jacques Chirac has thrown down the gauntlet with a vengeance. The surprise decision last night of the former Prime Minister and chairman of the Gaullist Rassemblement to stand for mayor of Paris in March is a challenge to the left but even more so, to President Giscard d'Estaing.

The President had given his official blessing two months ago to the candidature of M. Michel d'Ornano, the Minister of Industry and one of his intimates, against strong Gaullist opposition, and renewed it only on Monday.

Mr. Chirac claimed tonight that it was absurd to pretend that he was attacking the President or the Government by standing in Paris. "I support the Government appointed by the President and will continue to do so," he told reporters.

Although the Elysee Palace has refused all comment, M. Barre, the Prime Minister today strongly condemned M. Chirac's initiative which is also a direct affront to his authority as the leader of the majority in the electoral battle.

"While taking note of his entire support for the Government economic recovery plan," M. Barre said, "I expressed to him my fears that this initiative would provoke a deep division in the country, and economic recovery can be endangered by electoral clashes which would undermine the climate of confidence our country needs."

Mr. Chirac has chosen to gamble in one throw his entire political future. It is obvious that for him—and he made it clear in his statement last night—Paris is only a springboard. If he wins control of the capital, he will not stop there. But if he loses it, he will have lost everything.

For the present, the upshot is to divide the majority even more deeply than it has been so far, and undermine still further M. Giscard d'Estaing's authority.

This is so obvious that M. Olivier Stirn, the Minister for Territories, announced today that he was resigning from the Gaullist Rassemblement. "The personal moves of its president," he said, "from the moment they appear as challenges to the Prime Minister, if not the President, are factors of division, and therefore of weakness for the majority. Far from serving the fight against separatism, this attitude reinforces its prospects."

M. Jean Lecanuet, the Centrist leader and Minister of State, said that M. Chirac "wants to impose the predominance, the preponderance of the Rassemblement and its attitude of choice of the President." He was aiming at "a kind of live opinion poll, in the capital to prepare the ground for the parliamentary elections, and all this outside the procedures worked out by the Prime Minister."

The Gaullists, for their part, have responded favourably to their leader's bid for Paris. M. Michel Debré, the defender of strict Gaullist orthodoxy, said in a broadcast today: "M. Chirac will be mayor of Paris. It will be a victory for him."

For the Opposition, M. Claude Estier, the socialist spokesman said: "M. Chirac's formidable challenge shows how bitter the rivalries have become between the men of the majority, even if they defend the same interests."

As for M. d'Ornano, he told a press conference today that he would not withdraw. "I have hitherto been in a situation with M. Raymond Barre, and in full agreement with him, I confirm that I pursue the mission with which I have been regularly entrusted."

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The Gaullists, for their part, have responded favourably to their leader's bid for Paris. M. Michel Debré, the defender of strict Gaullist orthodoxy, said in a broadcast today: "M. Chirac will be mayor of Paris. It will be a victory for him."

For the Opposition, M. Claude Estier, the socialist spokesman said: "M. Chirac's formidable challenge shows how bitter the rivalries have become between the men of the majority, even if they defend the same interests."

As for M. d'Ornano, he told a press conference today that he would not withdraw. "I have hitherto been in a situation with M. Raymond Barre, and in full agreement with him, I confirm that I pursue the mission with which I have been regularly entrusted."

Mr. Chirac has chosen to gamble in one throw his entire political future. It is obvious that for him—and he made it clear in his statement last night—Paris is only a springboard. If he wins control of the capital, he will not stop there. But if he loses it, he will have lost everything.

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## Catholic schools challenge apartheid policy of South Africa

Jan 20. — The first religious body to take this step, Church leaders today were at pains to emphasize that in so doing they were not deliberately trying to defy the law or the Government. "We are not out for confrontation, but this is a matter for conscience," said Mr J. P. Galvin, the Vicar-General of the Catholic Archdiocese of Cape Town. "The Catholic Church in the world's largest Catholic country... The total number of black and Coloured pupils at Catholic schools will not be known for several weeks until school registers have been completed. But it is clear that all people have a right to education, and Christian education."

## Clergy-state clash on Amazon land disputes

Marabá, Brazil, Jan 20. — Land disputes in the Amazon jungle are causing a head-on clash between Brazilian authorities and wide sections of the Roman Catholic Church in the world's largest Catholic country. In recent months officials of the military regime have accused several bishops of instigating peasants to violence, of fomenting subversion and even of being communist agents. An Italian priest has been deported. The church has accused the authorities of ignoring the plight of peasants and Indians that it says are being dispossessed by large companies and landowners, or torturing a priest and of publishing false confessions by detained priests stating that some bishops are subversive or communist.

## Party split weakens bid to Mr Vorster

Jan 20. — African Parliamentarians tomorrow for a crucial session while opposition almost completely merged, arguing that the merger would lead to an abandonment of the UP's traditional belief in the need for white leadership in South Africa. The six will now sit on the cross benches. In theory their departure should mean the way is clear for the merger to go ahead. However, a new obstacle has been thrown up by Mr Colin Eglin, leader of the PRP, who is refusing to disband his party as a precondition to forming the new opposition group. The PRP's caucus has also expressed reservations about what it regards as the unacceptable right-wing interpretation placed by the UP on the Marais committee principles. The split in the UP, the fourth in the party's history, has naturally delighted Mr Vorster, the Prime Minister, who can now look forward to an easy passage in next week's important "no confidence" debate. He described the situation in the party as being like "the demise of a very sick person, a process which is not yet finished."

## Crash dive pilot tried to kill airline workers

Melbourne, Jan 20. — Police today released a suicide note from a British pilot who crashed his stolen aircraft into a Sydney building at Alice Springs, killing himself and three others. In the note, Colin Forman, aged 23, said his death dive on January 5 was intended to kill and maim as many employees as possible of an airline which had dismissed him. The letter was posted the day before he stole a twin-engine Beechcraft belonging to the Ord Charter Company at Wyndham in Western Australia and crashed into the administrative offices of Conair Ltd at Alice Springs, 700 miles away. He accused employees of Conair, the firm which had dismissed him, of being responsible for his "misery and degradation". He had also been dismissed by the Ord Company. Police said the note showed Forman intended to dive into the building's eastern corner during a test run when it would have been crowded with employees. But he miscalculated and arrived 10 minutes after the break was over. The control tower heard him shouting "it is better to die with honour than to live with dishonour" over his radio as he began the dive. The three people killed included Mr Roger Connell, 52-year-old son of Conair's chairman and founder. — Reuters.

## Policemen shot

Mexico City, Jan 20. — Left-wing guerrillas shot dead two policemen and stole their guns in a stationery shop here today. Six people, including five policemen, were shot dead by guerrillas in four days.

# TEHRAN.

# 10.30

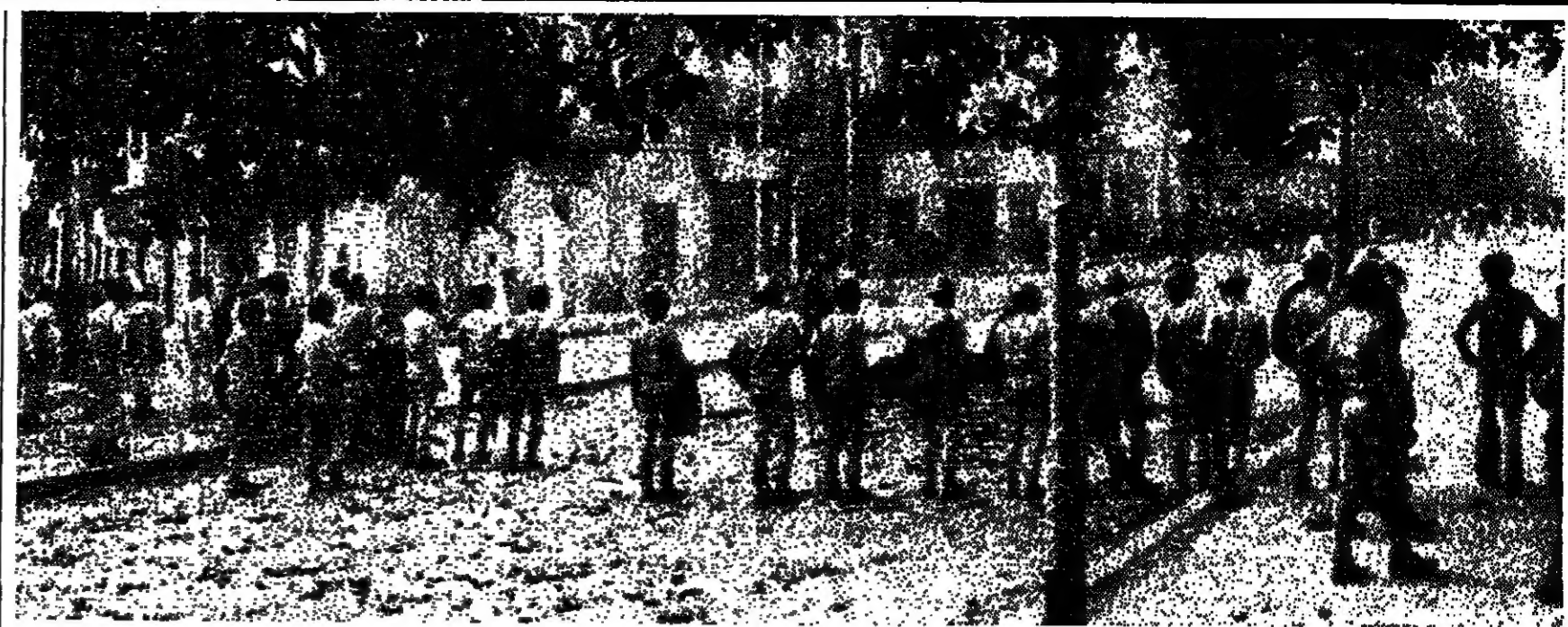
# DOWN-STOP

in Air have non-stop flights for Tehran leaving... So you can arrive in the early evening, without... at the crack of dawn.

ails of any of our seventeen flights a week to... o make... contact... agent.

## IRAN AIR

LD'S FASTEST GROWING AIRLINE.



Riot police stand guard near the Interior Ministry in Cairo, during the riots in protest at subsequently cancelled price increases.

## Most people exist in misery, sustained by family ties and victory assurances Nostalgia for Nasser as Egypt's poor get poorer

From Robert Fisk  
Cairo, Jan 20. — It was a secret policeman who unwittingly indicated one of the reasons for President Sadat's sudden political crisis. He had been standing with a uniformed police commander, watching the advancing crowd near the American University and talking into a two-way radio, when he caught sight of us at the side of the road. He walked over and, fraudulently claiming to be an employee of American Express, suggested that we left the area. "It is dangerous for you here," he said with a shepherding movement of his left arm, "and those people are unimportant. They are not Egyptians. They are just trash."

more than £800m in food subsidies; that the country's officially recognized inflation rate of 35 per cent only began four years ago; and that, given time for foreign investment to make its mark, the 38 million population will gradually acquire more per capita wealth. This could sound a reasonable argument until a factory hand or a low grade clerk displays the complicated system of tickets and passes required to obtain the meagre quantities of subsidized food. In a family of seven, for instance, government permits allow a subsidy on one kilogram of rice, one kilogram of sugar and half a kilogram of cooking oil a person each month as well as some cheap bread and tea. The rice costs 5p, the sugar 14p and the cooking oil 8p. But after receiving the allowance a man or woman pays the full rate for his rice, sugar and cooking oil for the rest of the month: 13p, 22p and 20p respectively.

students, is not so much the existence of such wealth but the apparent disregard for those who live in poverty. The rich (who are unpleasantly referred to as "white Egyptians") are popularly believed to have been the only class to benefit from Mr Sadat's American-oriented economic policies, although no big American firm has prospered in Egypt. Since the top 10 per cent are also by definition the administrators, the population of Cairo wonders why they have permitted the city to collapse. Overpopulation is treated as a fact of life and there is a good example of this. Some weeks ago, Mr Sadat twice stopped his official car in crowded streets to give lifts to pedestrians who were walking to work along the crumbling pavements. The Cairo newspapers placed this news on their front page. Yet earlier this month two commuters, crisscrossing the crowded city, were clinging to the outside fittings of the carriages, passed each other on a bend in the track near the suburb of Mariut. Nine passengers were wiped off the sides and killed while 15 more were terribly injured. Yet the incident raised only a few paragraphs in the press. The riots of the past two days, therefore, were as predictable as they were fierce. The poor are getting poorer and they look back beyond the last Middle East war to the days of Nasser, when the rich suffered to alleviate their poverty and when the President was seen as a common man, speaking colloquial Arabic and shaking off real and imagined servitude. Mr Sadat, although he likes to be seen in his galibayah, the traditional Arab smock, in villages in his home province of Minufiya, has little immediate popular appeal. His ripe-smoking meetings with European politicians and American senators are alien to many of his people. Cynics wonder whether his great experiment in democracy — the creation of two independent political parties last year — was not merely an attempt to provide a safety-valve against revolution rather than the introduction of a new climate of popular democracy. Perhaps he can persuade the Saudis to pay 75 per cent of his £1,000,000 military bill each year, as Mr Tawfik al Hakim, the respected Al-Ahram columnist, suggested today. Perhaps he can persuade the United States to increase its \$250m (£147m) aid. The Army still supports Mr Sadat, although one riot policeman guarding the Hilton yesterday said he earned just £15 a month. The police, one student said, are only the poor in uniform. But unless President Sadat can solve his domestic problems, there will be more unrest in Egypt. He is safe in power at the moment only because the population prefers a leader — Nasser — who happens to be dead.

## Mr Bhutto's unopposed reelection 'was rigged'

From Our Correspondent  
Rawalpindi, Jan 20. — Mr Bhutto's unopposed reelection to the National Assembly on the strength of having been the sole candidate to lodge nomination papers in his home constituency of Larkana, in the Sind, was publicly challenged today. At a Karachi press conference today Mr Asghar Khan, president of Tehrik-i-Insaf party and leader of the New-party opposition front formed to fight the March 7 general elections, claimed that the prospective opposition candidate in Larkana, Maulana Jan Muhammad Abbasi, was kidnapped on Monday night. He was freed on Wednesday after the lodging of nomination papers had ended. This was the first claim of attempted electoral rigging. But Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, the Sind Chief Minister, today described the Opposition's allegation of kidnapping as "a concoction in order to cover its frustration over the unopposed election of the Prime Minister." He claimed that Maulana Abbasi had lodged nomination papers in another constituency in Sind, Newabshah. However, apart from Mr Asghar Khan, four other leaders of the Opposition front, the Pakistan National Alliance, claimed tonight that Maulana Abbasi was abducted by police on Monday to prevent him from opposing Mr Bhutto in his home constituency. Mr Asghar Khan told the press conference: "If the police are unfair the people of Pakistan will certainly not accept them."

## Ethiopian force 'wiped out' by guerrillas

Khartoum, Jan 20. — Two Ethiopian soldiers who surrendered to Sudanese border police after escaping from a battle with Eritrean guerrillas have described the situation in their country as "very bad". The Sudanese news agency reported here yesterday. The two men were quoted as saying they had fled to the border after a battle at Umm Hagel in Eritrea, Ethiopia's rebel northern province. They said their battalion was trying to make for Tessenet, on the Sudan border, but was wiped out by the guerrillas. Their escape to Sudan follows reports that 36 Ethiopian soldiers took refuge across the border last Sunday. The incidents come during a period of strain between Ethiopia and Sudan, and allegations by President Nimeiry of Sudan that Ethiopia is harbouring anti-Sudanese elements and helping to train "various troops" in camps inside Ethiopia. Ethiopian Government troops are being harassed by guerrillas of the London-based Ethiopian Democratic Union which is demanding a return to civilian rule and the establishment of a parliamentary democracy. — Agence France Presse.

## West Bank call for inquiry into Arab jail deaths

From Eric Marsden  
Jerusalem, Jan 20. — Leaders of Red Crescent societies in the occupied West Bank have called for an investigation into the deaths of four Arab prisoners in Israeli jails during the past two years. They are also urging the setting up of a committee of Arab leaders to study grievances which led to the five-week hunger strike by prisoners at Ashkelon jail, south of Tel Aviv. The hunger strike, which set off sympathy strikes at other prisons, was officially declared to have ended yesterday, but Arab sources claim that some prisoners are still refusing food. Six demonstrations were held in West Bank towns today as part of "prisoners' day". Yesterday 50 Red Crescent leaders called at the International Red Cross office in Jerusalem and presented a petition calling for improved prison discipline. The petition requested the release of five prisoners in Ashkelon who, it said, needed hospital treatment. One man was said to have become paralysed, another to have gone blind, and a third partly blind. It also sought examination of all Arab prisoners by Arab doctors. Other moves sought included an end to overcrowding, provision of beds instead of floor mats, better food and sanitation, and an end to what prisoners alleged was "abuse by guards". More than 200 students today occupied the Ramallah municipal offices with the agreement of Mr Karim Khalaf, the mayor. Mr Khalaf said he and other mayors had asked to visit prisoners but after a date had been set permission was withdrawn. He alleged that all prisons in Israel and the occupied areas were overcrowded. Prison authorities have not so far commented on the complaints.

## Chinese press confirms end of anti-Teng campaign

Peking, Jan 20. — China today officially indicated that it had called off its campaign against Mr Teng Hsiao-ping, the purged moderate leader. A monthly magazine, China Reconstructs, published a new version of a speech by Mr Wu Teh, Peking's mayor, at a mass rally last October, deleting all criticism of Mr Teng. In his address, Mr Wu had told a crowd of a million they should continue to criticize Mr Teng and repulse a right-deviationist attempt to reverse correct verdicts of the Cultural Revolution. But these remarks were deleted from the version of the speech printed today in China Reconstructs. Earlier this month, wall posters in Peking, Shanghai and the central city of Hsian denounced Mr Teng's rehabilitation, claiming that he had been smeared by Chiang Ching-kuo, Mao Tse-tung's widow, and others. Analysts here believe that the former Deputy Prime Minister, who was dismissed last April, will be rehabilitated soon. Some speculate that he may eventually become Prime Minister. Newspapers are now attacking his radical opponents, alleging that they plotted to seize power. — Reuters.

## Indonesia lifts ban

Singapore, Jan 20. — Indonesia has lifted its year-old entry ban on Mr Bruce Wilson, the South-east Asia Correspondent of the Melbourne Herald-Sun, who was accused of bias in his reporting of the fighting in Timor.

## Tibet dinosaur fossils

Hongkong, Jan 20. — Chinese scientists have discovered a number of dinosaur fossils 13,779ft above sea level in Tibet, the New China news agency reported today. The oldest were said to be 160 million years old.

### ADVERTISEMENT

As mentioned in the FESTAC Report in The Times on 16th January, here are the vacancies in the Federal Republic of Nigeria

## NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY

### VACANCIES

The National Electric Power Authority responsible for generation, transmission and distribution of electric power throughout the Federal Republic of Nigeria requires for immediate appointment the following categories of Nigerians:

- (i) Engineers (Electrical, Mechanical, Civil, Protection, Control and Metering)
- (ii) Technicians (Electrical, Mechanical, Civil, Protection, Control and Metering)
- (iii) Technicians (Electrical, Mechanical and Civil)
- (iv) Surveyors
- (v) Architects
- (vi) Accountants/Auditors
- (vii) Systems Analysts/Programmers
- (viii) Senior Executive Officers (Accounts) and Higher Executive Officers (Accounts)
- (ix) Senior Officers

For (i) above, applicants must possess a good university degree in Electrical, Mechanical or Civil Engineering or an equivalent professional qualification registrable with the Council of Registered Engineers of Nigeria.

Candidates for (ii) above must possess the Higher Technician Diploma in electrical, mechanical or civil engineering, or its equivalent.

Candidates for (iii) above must possess the Ordinary Technician Diploma in Electrical, Mechanical or Civil Engineering, or its equivalent.

Candidates for the post of surveyor should possess a good university degree in Surveying or an equivalent professional qualification and must have acquired at least three years' post qualification relevant experience.

Candidates for the post of Architect must possess a good university degree in Architecture or an equivalent professional qualification, plus at least three years' post qualification relevant experience.

Candidates for (vi) must possess one of ACA, ACCA or ACMA.

In addition, candidates for the post of Systems Analyst must possess extensive programming and systems analysis experience using COBOL and/or FORTRAN in a business environment while candidates for the post of Programmer must be versed in the use of COBOL and/or FORTRAN and IBM 360/370 DOS Software and be experienced in STRUCTURED or MODULAR programming. Applicants without such experience may be considered for TRAINEE appointments if they display sufficient aptitude and are capable of rapid development.

Candidates for the post of Senior Executive Officer (Accounts) must possess a good University Degree in Accounting or Parts I-IV of ACA, ACCA or ACMA with reasonable industrial experience while candidates for the post of Higher Executive Officer (Accounts) must possess Part I-III of the ACA, ACCA, ACMA or Higher National Diploma in Accounting/Business Studies.

Applicants for the post of Safety Officer should possess a good University Degree in Engineering or Business Administration plus at least four years' post qualification experience, two of which must have been spent in promoting and organizing industrial safety in a large organization.

### REMUNERATION

Salaries to be offered are attractive and will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

### CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

Appointment is renewable but successful candidates will be on probation for two years. The posts attract several fringe benefits such as leave grant and car basic allowance. The Authority also endeavours to provide quarters but where this fails, appropriate housing allowance is paid in lieu. Other conditions of service will be as for Senior Employees of identical grade in the Authority.

### METHOD OF APPLICATION

Applicants in Nigeria can obtain application forms from the Director of Personnel, Electricity Headquarters, 24/25 Marina, Lagos, or any of the Authority's Directors of Operations/Directors of Distribution/Directors of Management/Underwriting Managers within the country. Applicants in Canada and the United States of America can obtain application forms from the offices of the Nigeria High Commission, Canada, and Nigerian Embassy in Washington while applicants in the United Kingdom can obtain application forms from the Resident Engineer, National Electric Power Authority London Office, Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1.

All completed application forms must reach the Director of Personnel, Electricity Headquarters, 24/25 Marina, Lagos, not later than Friday, February 11, 1977.

## British error over arms sale ship

From Peter Hazelhurst  
Tokyo, Jan 20. — An apparent slip in British diplomacy touched off an embarrassing controversy in Japan today, when Tokyo's metropolitan authorities formally informed the Japanese Government that the Royal Navy support ship Lyness will not be allowed to dock in Tokyo port in March to exhibit a display of British weapons for sale. The British Embassy in Tokyo originally submitted a request to the Japanese Foreign Ministry in December, suggesting that the Lyness might be allowed to dock in Tokyo at the end of March to promote the sale of 271 types of weapons and military craft. "We were put in a difficult position," a highly placed Foreign Ministry source said. "The Foreign Ministry could only transmit the British request to the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, which controls the port. The British Embassy should have known better. It is widely known that the Governor of Tokyo (Mr Ryokichi Minobe) is left-wing and opposes any form of military activity."

Government. The reply was negative. The Foreign Ministry will now consult other government agencies to establish how we will handle this case."

The spokesman, Mr Kensuke Yanagiya, said that other naval vessels had been allowed to enter Tokyo port in the past but the Japanese Government had never been asked to sanction an open exhibition of arms before.

When asked whether the British request had placed the Japanese Government in an embarrassing position, Mr Yanagiya replied: "Not necessarily. Friendly countries can make any soundings. Then we can see what we can do."



## US PRESIDENCY

# Recollection of another snowbound inauguration

## The Kennedy era left Americans suspicious of rhetoric

By Louis Herem

Washington was also snowbound when John F. Kennedy was sworn in as the thirty-fifth President of the United States 16 years ago, but nobody cared. Everybody was convinced that a brilliant new era was about to begin—well, perhaps a few Republicans and anti-papists were not quite so sure—and what was 16in of snow among the new Renaissance men and women?

That was the popular claim in those innocent days. The ridiculous Camelot myth was invented by Theodore White much later. Eighteenth-century Versailles also crept into some unhistoric minds, but again who cared?

One thing was absolutely certain. To quote the wife of Walter Reuther, one of the Kennedy team, the United States was taking over.

It did not matter that most of the Kennedy men had never heard a gun fired in anger. Kennedy was seen to be a war hero and every war veteran responded to the new President's call to arms.

Let the word go forth from this time and place, to friend and foe alike, that the torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans—born in this century, tempered by war, disciplined by a hard and bitter peace, proud of our ancient heritage, and unwilling to witness or permit the slow undoing of those rights to which this nation has always been committed, and to which we are committed today at home and around the world.

I read the advance text in the White House the night before, and thought that it was splendid stuff. The spirit of Agincourt if not of the Alamo. I had had to abandon a taxi in the Georgetown snow, but the stirring rhetoric must have forgotten my sudden shoes and trousers.

The night did not still the excitement, and the great and fashionable gathered before the east front of the Capitol to witness the inauguration welcomed the not-to-be reporter from London, England, with smiles and whisky flasks. We were indeed a happy band of brothers, and not so few.

Robert Frost read his poem, "The Gift of Myself," and I, as a reporter, was asked to emphasize its sentiments for a new generation of Americans. He also tried to read a dedication.

Washington, Jan 20.—The following is the text of President Carter's inaugural address today:

For myself and our nation, I want to thank my predecessor for all he has done to heal our land. In this outward and physical ceremony we stand once again to the inner and spiritual strength of our nation. As a high school teacher, Miss Julia Coleman, used to say: "We must adjust to changing times and still hold to unchanging principles."

Here before me is the Bible used in the inauguration of our first President in 1789, and I have just taken my own oath of office on the Bible my mother gave me a few years ago, opened to a timeless admonition from the ancient prophet Micah: "He hath showed thee, O man, what is good: And what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God."

This inauguration ceremony marks a new beginning, a new dedication within our Government, and a new spirit among us all. A President may sense and proclaim that new spirit, but only a people can provide it.

Two centuries ago our nation's birth was a milestone in the long quest for freedom, but the bold and brilliant dream which excited the founders of our nation still awaits its consummation. I have no new dream to set forth today, but rather urge a fresh faith in the old dream.

Our was the first society openly to define itself in terms of both spirituality and of human dignity. It is that unique self-definition which has given us an exceptional appeal—but it is also a burden, a special obligation, to take on those moral duties which, when assumed, seem invariably to be in our own best interests.

You have given me a great responsibility—to stay close to you, to be worthy of the trust you have placed in me. Let us create together a new national spirit of unity and trust. Your strength can compensate for my weakness, and your wisdom can help to minimize my mistakes.

Let us learn together and laugh together and work together and pray together, confident that in the end we will triumph together in the light.

The American dream endures. We must once again have faith in our country, in the future of our country, in the future of our country. I believe America can be better. We can be stronger than before.

Let our recent mistakes bring a resurgent commitment to the basic principles of our nation, for we



Mr Ford embraces his personal secretary, Miss Nell Yates, as he says farewell to the White House yesterday.

cation, but the sunlight reflecting off the pages, the brilliant silos of the Capitol and the snow were too much for his poor old eyes.

Then came the inaugural address. Kennedy stood bareheaded and his Bostonian voice hard and determined, echoed round the plaza.

"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and success of liberty. This much we pledge—and more."

I can remember the straightening of backs, mine included. It was a rebirth, a national renewal. After those stogy and inarticulate Eisenhower years the trail boss was leading up to lead a nation of fresh pioneers to a New Frontier.

Little did we realize that Kennedy meant every word of it, and that the new frontier would be sought in Berlin, the Bay of Pigs, the underground silos of inter-continental ballistic missiles and Vietnam. There were also a few good things to report before the end came at Dallas, the nuclear test ban treaty for instance, but Americans have since learnt to be suspicious of rhetoric.

There have learnt a great deal more in the intervening years—in the riot-ridden streets of their cities, in the paddy-fields of Vietnam, and the White House tapes. That wagon train which began to move 16 years ago has been depleted, hopes are not so high, and the trail boss might be more careful as he moves through Indian territory.

The next four years will, I hope, be not so exciting, but I shall always remember the 1961 inauguration. It proved that the American people can forget the past and respond to leadership. That is still very reassuring.

We are a proudly idealistic nation, but let no one confuse our idealism with weakness. Because we are free we can never be indifferent to the fate of freedom elsewhere. Our moral sense dictates a clear preference for those societies which share with us an abiding respect for individual human rights. We do not seek to intimidate, but it is clear that a world which others can dominate with impunity would be inhospitable to decency and a threat to the well-being of all people.

The world is still engaged in a power struggle, a race designed to insure continuing equivalent strength among potential adversaries. We pledge perseverance and wisdom in our efforts to limit the world's armaments to those necessary for each nation's own domestic safety. We will move this year step toward the ultimate goal—the elimination of all nuclear weapons from this earth.

We urge all other people to join us, for success can mean life instead of death.

Within us, the people of the United States, there is evident a serious and profound reliance of confidence, and I join in the hope that when my time as President has ended, people might say this about me: "He was a man who had the courage to lead his people to a new era of peace and justice."

That we had remembered the words of Micah and renewed our search for humility, mercy and justice.

That we had torn down the barriers that separated those of different race and region and religion, and we had been united in a respect for diversity.

That we had found productive work for those able to perform it.

That we had strengthened the American family, which is the bedrock of our society.

That we had ensured respect for the law, and equal treatment under the law, for the weak and the powerful, the rich and the poor.

And that we had enabled our people to be proud of their own Government once again.

I would hope that the nations of the world might say that we had built a lasting peace, based not on weapons of war but on mutual respect and understanding.

These are not just my goals, but the goals of our nation, and I believe in an undiminished, ever-expanding American dream.

Reuter.

In these endeavors we need your help, and we need your wisdom. We need your active participation in a joint effort to move the reality of the world closer to the ideals of human freedom and dignity.

As friends, you can depend on the United States to be in the forefront of the search for world peace and justice.

The United States alone cannot guarantee the basic right of every human being to be free of poverty and hunger and disease and political repression. We can and will co-operate with others in combating these enemies of mankind.

The United States alone cannot insure an equitable development of the world, response or the proper safeguarding of the world's environment. But we can and will join with others in this work.

The United States can and will take the lead in such efforts.

As relatively recently as 1970 Mr. Healey fairly stated "it is clear from a job evaluation exercise that the forces have been seriously underpaid in recent years". Whilst serving they

Modern hospital medicine is highly effective in some areas: In particular it has virtually eliminated the former hazards of childbearing, it provides excellent treatment for accidental injuries, and operations on the eyes and ears can often restore sight and hearing. Yet the main killing and crippling diseases have remained resistant to all the advances of medical science: mortality from heart disease, stroke, and the common cancers has hardly altered since the Second World War. We have a whole range of modern drugs for rheumatism, arthritis, bronchitis and asthma, psoriasis and eczema, but they do not cure, they simply alleviate. Yet more and more expensive research effort is concentrated on further inquiry into the biochemical and microscopic defects responsible for these diseases. We have not yet learnt the lessons of history. Surely, says Professor McKeown, if we are to control and indeed eliminate diseases that kill and cripple we should look for their causes so that we can prevent them?

We may not understand the disease processes responsible for coronary thrombosis or stroke, but we do know a great deal about some of the factors in the western way of life that induce them. The same is true of cancer, as Sir Richard Doll explained in his lecture published earlier this month in the *Journal of Royal College of Physicians*. In addition to tobacco and alcohol there are over 20 other known specific causes of cancer—industrial chemicals, drugs, and food poisons—and Sir Richard believes that in time 80 per cent or more of all cancers will be traced to environmental poisons.

The most striking evidence in favour of that view is the vast difference in the frequency of different cancers in various parts of the world. The Japanese, for example, have high rates for stomach cancer and low rates for cancer of the

# The doctors' dilemma:

## How to cure society of a lifestyle that makes people ill

Ever since Renaissance anatomist Vesalius began the conversion of medicine from a magical skill to a natural science the body has been seen as an intricate and wonderful machine, but one well within the scope of human understanding. More recently—and certainly for the last 100 years—the role of medical science has been the study of defects in the body-machine and their repair. In retrospect, future generations may see this search for cures for our diseases as just as mistaken as the alchemists' belief in the philosophers' stone—and it has recently been challenged by two of our most eminent medical scientists, Sir Richard Doll and Professor Thomas McKeown.

Their conclusions (reached quite independently) is that most of the intellectual and financial effort being put into current medical research is being directed at the wrong objectives. The body is not a machine which from time to time needs servicing or repair: it should instead be seen as a creation to be preserved, as far as possible, in its original state of perfection. We are born well (or most of us are) and it is each individual's responsibility to maintain his body in a healthy state.

Our present misplaced faith in the ability of doctors to heal comes from a false interpretation of history. Professor McKeown's account of *The Role of Medicine* (Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust £3.25) shows that it has little claim to credit for the conquest of disease. The prevalence of fevers and plague for so much of human history was due to the combination of insufficient food, environmental hazards such as impure water, and overcrowding. Their decline was due to improved nutrition, better hygiene, and contraception. The contribution made by vaccines and drugs was negligible, with the exceptions of streptomycin for tuberculosis and immunization against polio.

The Consumers' Association, in a recent edition of *Which?* pointed out that although credit cards were a convenient way of paying they were also a way of getting into debt. Although "plastic money" has become an integral part of the consumer spending boom and in spite of the fact that in Britain one adult in eight possesses a credit card, they are still viewed with awe by many, and with downright suspicion by some. The consumer will ensure that for some time, at any rate, Britain will not achieve the so-called American ideal of not being able to pay with cash at all.

Leaving aside individual store cards and schemes run by big hotel chains, I have been examining the operations and usefulness of the four true credit cards: Barclaycard, Access, Diners Club and American Express.

The first two are run by British clearing banks, the others by individual companies. Barclaycard has 3,400,000 holders, three quarters of whom were 10 years old in June. Access, which has about three million holders, was launched in 1972 by the other clearing banks: National Westminster, Midland, Lloyds and their smaller subsidiaries.

Diners Club was started in 1950 in America and went public in Britain in 1964. The old Westminster Bank took a 49 per cent stake in 1965. There are 180,000 cardholders in Britain. American Express cardholders within 25 days thereafter the holder must pay at least £5 or 15 per cent of what he owes, whichever is the greater. Interest on cash withdrawals (up to £30) is charged immediately. If the holder does not pay, reminders are sent, and the card is withdrawn and finally the holder's name may be taken to recover the outstanding debt.

If the consumer should lose his card, he is liable for the first £25 of fraudulent use before Barclaycard or Access become informed. In the meantime, the card companies are liable. Diners Club holds the consumer liable for the first £30 of fraudulent use, but once it is informed of the loss or theft the company becomes liable. For 50p a year it will insure the holder against liability. American Express holds the consumer liable for the first £20 before notification.

Barclaycard has 90,000 outlets in Britain where a consumer may use his card, including hotels, restaurants, garages, shops and airline offices. The number of Access outlets is 96,000, for Diners Club 17,000 and for American Express 20,000. The outlets pay a commission of between 2 and 7 per cent.

Barclaycard and Access charge interest of 2 per cent a month on outstanding balances, which is increased to 2½ per cent on cash withdrawals. All four impose a service charge of between 3 per cent and 7 per cent. Failure to pay the monthly account to Diners Club or American Express incur a charge of 1½ per cent while they are setting about withdrawing the card facility.

Statistics from the Inter-Bank Research Organization show that of all personal sector transactions in this country over a period of a year cash accounted for 94 per cent, cheques for 4 per cent and credit cards for 0.16 per cent. Of all payments by bank account holders, cash still accounted for 88 per cent, cheques for 8 per cent and credit cards for 0.44 per cent.

In the area in which credit cards could be expected to have their largest share of the market—payments of between £9.50 and £24.50 by those who had bank accounts—cash accounted for 42 per cent of payments, cheques for 44 per cent and credit cards for 2 per cent. In each case there was an "other" category to bring totals up to 100 per cent.

That is some indication of the reserved manner in which most cardholders use their credit facility. Barclaycard says that of its 3,400,000 holders, only 1,500,000 use their cards on a monthly basis. Of these, 33 per cent pay their accounts fully on

demand each month, third use their cards for term credit facilities, a two-to-three-month payment scheme.

The rest of the 1 are long-term credit and are always in debt. Barclaycard remains confident that the public "is rather than profligate" than 0.5 per cent of its on loan proves to be debt.

Barclaycard reached even point after five years enjoyed 36 months of profitability until, in December 1973, it was plunged into the Government restrictions. The company is recovering from that, but is Access, though all companies are approaching calculating the likely of business of the all-consumer credit card.

For the consumer, himself as a financial Dr credit cards are a con way of borrowing much cheaply than hire purchase the financial Mr Hyde can bring serious debt a sible disaster. The In figures suggest the British consumer is well of the peril.

John G Consumer Correspondent

Dr Tony Medical Correspondent

# Balancing up the credits and debits of joining the cashless society

month on outstanding balances, which is increased to 2½ per cent on cash withdrawals. All four impose a service charge of between 3 per cent and 7 per cent. Failure to pay the monthly account to Diners Club or American Express incur a charge of 1½ per cent while they are setting about withdrawing the card facility.

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John G Consumer Correspondent

Dr Tony Medical Correspondent

Why the Armed Forces are losing the bureaucratic battle over indexed pensions

recently given in aid of funding such pensions for teachers. On that basis two problems have to be solved—what the index link should be in normal times, and how today's crisis should be met.

The main links so far considered have been: The "parity" link. (Those retired in the 1950s or 1960s would get the same pension as those who retire today in the same rank.) This—the fairest—link has been consistently vetoed by the Treasury.

The "pay increase percentage" link. (Pensions increase annually by the same percentage as the pay increase in the rank.) This was rejected by the Treasury because normally pay rises faster than prices.

The "retail prices index" link. This was adopted and is in force.

The "parity" link seems clearly to be not only the fairest but also the least likely to cause confusion and anomalies. The Treasury, however, having nearly chosen the retail prices index link, and having thus for a brief period won advantage by its use, is now faced with its flaws—including the result that, for the time being, a few recently retired officers are receiving pensions higher than those payable to someone of equivalent rank retiring today.

Any long-term measure designed to extricate the Treasury from the difficulties so ill-advisedly created requires legislation to secure a breach by the Government of bargains made with those who entered into or continued in its service trusting the provision of the 1971 Act. Such unilateral retroactive repudiation of agreements is not usually regarded as laudable.

What then of temporary measures, in the light of the fact that many retired officers and others wish to take their share in "Dunkirk" improvisations? The best course would be for an opportunity to join in some suitable voluntary waiver scheme that did not prejudice the future of widows. Stop-gap legislation, hastily cobbled in exceptional conditions, is apt to produce bad results.

So, what does the recent report that the Government intends, after consultation, to abandon for the higher rates of pension the present index link herald

for senior officers and their wives. Can the consultations avoid domination by those who espouse policies of envy?

If, however, it comes to ten contrar-breaking legislation, some cut questions need consider. Should such legislation be done or should it attempt to be fair difference between the theory incomes policy and the practice, shows for greater percentage of pay packets, and in addition "fringe benefits" that can on instance, no merchant seamen t to naval pensioners? Would it b or of benefit to the rest of am told is possible. Mr Perdue awards a pre-tax increase great that of a sergeant? Should the sury on a "heads we win, tails lose", basis, select at will the least favourable to the pensioner ought it, upon at last adopting a "parity" link, simply to limit it round of payments to those who not yet reached the parity? C there not, after all, sound some ministerial assertion in July of principle that has commanded acceptance by the House and by: sive Governments should not be abandoned because of short term considerations?

Any derogation from cons rights derived from statutes re great care if injustice is to be at Moreover, justice must be plait to be done. This country's rell volunteers for its Armed Forces any further erosion of confide their political masters could serious effects. In particular this a to the middle-rank officers o Army, many of the best of who already so much worried as tempted to leave their service for where neither the chances of medical promotion nor its core rewards are liable to be whittled by Parliament.

Sir Eric S The author, who is a former Justice of Appeal, served as an adjutant general in 1941 and © Times Newspapers Ltd, 1977.

# New President's message to the world

Washington, Jan 20

The following is the text of President Carter's special address to the citizens of the world:

I have chosen the occasion of my inauguration as President to speak not only to my own countrymen—which is traditional—but also to you, citizens of the world, who did not participate in our election but who will nevertheless be affected by my decisions.

I also believe that as friends you are entitled to know how the power and influence of the United States will be exercised by its new Government.

I want to assure you that the relations between the United States and the other countries and peoples of the world will be guided during our administration by our desire to share a world order that is more responsive to human aspirations.

The United States alone cannot guarantee the basic right of every human being to be free of poverty and hunger and disease and political repression. We can and will co-operate with others in combating these enemies of mankind.

The United States alone cannot insure an equitable development of the world, response or the proper safeguarding of the world's environment. But we can and will join with others in this work.

The United States can and will take the lead in such efforts.

As relatively recently as 1970 Mr. Healey fairly stated "it is clear from a job evaluation exercise that the forces have been seriously underpaid in recent years". Whilst serving they

Modern hospital medicine is highly effective in some areas: In particular it has virtually eliminated the former hazards of childbearing, it provides excellent treatment for accidental injuries, and operations on the eyes and ears can often restore sight and hearing. Yet the main killing and crippling diseases have remained resistant to all the advances of medical science: mortality from heart disease, stroke, and the common cancers has hardly altered since the Second World War. We have a whole range of modern drugs for rheumatism, arthritis, bronchitis and asthma, psoriasis and eczema, but they do not cure, they simply alleviate. Yet more and more expensive research effort is concentrated on further inquiry into the biochemical and microscopic defects responsible for these diseases. We have not yet learnt the lessons of history. Surely, says Professor McKeown, if we are to control and indeed eliminate diseases that kill and cripple we should look for their causes so that we can prevent them?

We may not understand the disease processes responsible for coronary thrombosis or stroke, but we do know a great deal about some of the factors in the western way of life that induce them. The same is true of cancer, as Sir Richard Doll explained in his lecture published earlier this month in the *Journal of Royal College of Physicians*. In addition to tobacco and alcohol there are over 20 other known specific causes of cancer—industrial chemicals, drugs, and food poisons—and Sir Richard believes that in time 80 per cent or more of all cancers will be traced to environmental poisons.

The most striking evidence in favour of that view is the vast difference in the frequency of different cancers in various parts of the world. The Japanese, for example, have high rates for stomach cancer and low rates for cancer of the

demand each month, third use their cards for term credit facilities, a two-to-three-month payment scheme.

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SPORT

Cricket

Lord's act to remove slur cast at Madras

The Cricket Council have rejected suggestions that John Lever, the England fast bowler, was indulging in sharp practice when he wore gauze strips with Vaseline adhesive over his eyebrows in the recent Madras Test.

Lever and Bob Willis were named in the council's statement issued last night. But it was Lever, the Essex left arm bowler, whom the council suspected of using grease from the gauze to polish the ball. The Indian Board of Control impounded both the ball and the gauze strips. While the Test was still in progress, they stated that they were unable to come to a conclusion as to whether the intentions of the bowler were deliberate or not.

Their counterparts at Lord's were in no doubt yesterday. Their statement read:

"The Cricket Council have been in communication with the manager and captain of the MCC team with regard to the highly publicized incident in Madras. The Council has fully accepted the explanation given that the use of gauze strips by both Willis and Lever was wholly to prevent sweat getting into their eyes. Whilst they may have caused an unwelcome technical breach of the law, the council totally rejects the inference that the individuals concerned, or the England team were indulging in any form of 'sharp practice'."

The incident occurred towards the end of India's first innings



Lever (left) and Willis: reputations cleared by Cricket Council.

after Lever had complained that sweat had run into his eyes. During lunch, the MCC physiotherapist, Bernard Thomas, prepared the gauze strips for the fast bowlers, but Lever discarded his after one over. Bedi, one of the batsmen, pointed this out to the umpire, Mr. Reuben, who picked them up and later submitted them

to the Indian board's representatives.

Lever had taken three wickets before using the gauze, and after disposing of it, he finished off the Indian innings with two more to finish with five for 59. Bedi later blamed that Lever had used similar methods in the first Test in Delhi, when he took seven for 46.

Rugby Union

Wales suspend Wheel for four weeks

Geoffrey Wheel, the Swansea lock forward, was suspended for four weeks by the Welsh Rugby Union disciplinary committee after Cardiff last night. Wheel and Duggan, the Irish No 8, were sent off by Norman Scaunce, the referee, in Saturday's international match between Wales and Ireland.

The suspension does not include the day upon which the offence occurred, so Wheel will not be able to resume rugby until February 13. He will miss Wales's match against France in Paris on February 5, but he will be available for the remaining games against England and Scotland.

Duggan was dealt with immediately by the Irish RFU on Sunday and received a two-week suspension for his dismissal. These two were the first players to be sent off in the home international championship.

The decision to ban Wheel from one international match is sure to cause further controversy over the disparity of the punishments.

Wheel will be available to play for Ireland in their next game against England on February 5. Wheel was considered the instigator of the incident in which Ireland's flanker, Stewart McKinney, was laid out. Duggan was dismissed for throwing a retaliatory punch against the Welsh lock, Alan Martin.

Wheel, who is 25, is considered one of the best maulers in the game and his aggressive all-round play has earned him 11 international caps. The four-week suspension means that he, like Duggan, will not be able to challenge for a Lions place in New Zealand this summer.

He has been sent of twice previously in club matches for Cardiff. These offences have not been taken into consideration because both occurred more than three years ago. He is the first Welshman to be sent off in an international and the incident attracted so much interest that the committee broke with tradition by announcing the sentence immediately. As soon as Wheel had been informed of his fate by telephone the decision was given to the press. The normal procedure is for the player to be informed by letter.

The committee took little more than half-an-hour to deal with the case and those of five other players.

The Welsh selectors meet next Thursday to pick the team to play France and Wheel's place is likely to go to Quinell, of Llanelli. Although Wheel's all-round strength will be missed, it will be replaced by the more powerful greater ball-playing ability.

Durham have no need of clutching at straws

By Peter West, Rugby Correspondent

Durham University, who drew a red-blooded game with Oxford nine-all last season, complete their fixtures double against Oxford bridge tomorrow when they play Cambridge for the first time. The match will also complete the rugby club's centenary celebrations.

Alistair Snellett is leading the Cambridge team which will include Gordon Wood, who first made his name in senior rugby when he spent three years in the Durham XV. No doubt Peter Warfield will also be playing for his club, the reserve wicketkeeper. Surridge is a handy left-handed batsman. Mankad and Madan Lal have been dropped, and Veng-sar is out with a broken finger.

What India need are batsmen in form, which they might have by now had they not been so determined to make pitches that turned, for Underwood to comment them on. Underwood's figures for the first three Test matches were 133-57-215-13. Bedi's were 175-4-311-13. He has been a joy to watch them at work, in their strikingly different ways: Right and guile on the one hand, incisive probing on the other; the mosquito and the wasp.

On Saturday, for the match against South Zone at Hyderabad, Underwood gets a rest, as do Willis, the all-rounder, and Bedi. Willis's hand is still bruised and sore, so that he too will not play.

The South Zone party of 14 includes four Test players: Venkataraghavan, who will captain the side; Viswanath, Patel and Ashu. All three are in the MCC team. A. W. Greig (captain), D. L. Amis, R. A. Woolmer, W. R. Fletcher, G. D. Barlow, D. W. Randall, G. M. A. P. E. Knott, G. Cope, M. W. W. Selvey, J. K. Lever—Reuters.

of action for a minimum of three weeks.

Even without Anderson, Durham, with a strong and experienced front five, hope to give Cambridge something to think about at forward. Their locks, Rupp and Kelly, are in their third season together. The No 8, Gordon Wood, has played for Bristol and Gloucestershire. The tight-half, Proctor, is regarded locally as having a bright future in the game.

Marcus Rose, the full back who made a name for himself with the England 19-group side and this year's young member of the Leicester team, is playing for Durham in the centre and by all accounts looking very useful indeed. Vaux, a scrum-half, has offered Durham £10,000 a year to assist with his studies for a degree in sports science.

Having entered the Durham county cup competition this season for the first time, the university reached the semi-final last Sunday with a 7-6 victory over West Lane in the area. But that match cost them the services of their captain, Bob Anderson, the 1A and England Under-23 flanker. A broken bone in a hand will keep him out

Even European champions may be lost in unpredictable affair

Needle in an Argentine haystack

By Norman Fox

An absorbing and promising European championship final contest between Norway and Sweden last summer raised hopes that, in spite of the weight of history, a team from outside the host continent would win next year's World Cup in Argentina (June 1 to 23). The only time this has occurred was in 1938 when Brazil won in Sweden.

At this stage not even the winners of the European championship, Czechoslovakia, can be confident of qualifying and, with South America not yet producing a team to compete with the continent of Europe, the World Cup is an unpredictable affair. Even so, it should be remembered that at this period in the previous competitions no clear favourite or outstanding team had emerged.

Brazil are rebuilding and should again lead the South American challenge. Whether they colour the finals with the skills of the past it is too early to say. The positions and possibilities in the European qualifying groups are as follows:—

Group one

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Poland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Denmark	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Portugal	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Cyprus	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group two

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Italy	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Spain	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
East Germany	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
West Germany	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Switzerland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Sweden	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group four

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Netherlands	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Scotland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group five

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

TO PLAY: March 30: England v Luxembourg; June 8: Norway v Sweden; October 13: Italy v Finland; November 10: West Germany v East Germany.

Group three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
East Germany	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
West Germany	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Switzerland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Sweden	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group seven

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Czechoslovakia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Poland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Denmark	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Portugal	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group eight

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Italy	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Spain	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group nine

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group five

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group six

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group seven

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group eight

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group nine

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group six

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group seven

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group eight

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group nine

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group ten

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group eleven

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group twelve

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group thirteen

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group fourteen

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group fifteen

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Group sixteen

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Republic of Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Underwood turns towards top

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Madras, Jan 20

This will be mostly in praise of Derek Underwood, the bowler whose relentless persistence has had so much to do with England's victory in India. In three Test matches I am not sure that he has bowled a thoroughly loose ball and, to those who say that that is because his bowling lacks variety, let the view of one of the Indian batsmen—"his length is like a Chinese torture—serve as a rejoinder.

Underwood has taken 234 Test wickets and at the age of 31, he is still in his prime. He could even be coming to it. In the match just finished he passed Lindwall's total of 228. One of his bowlers now are Sobers (235), Bedi (236), McKenzie (246), Bennett (247), Stratham (252), Trueman (257) and Gibbs (261). Of these, Sobers and Bedi will probably be passed in Bangalore, and McKenzie, Bennett and Stratham later this year. As Underwood is bowling, it is a matter of time before he climbs to be top of the list.

There have been days in England, during the last two or three seasons, when he has been able to do something. The reason for that, I think, has been the weight of work he has had to do. He has been weary enough to lose his length and, even worse, his rhythm. Like all the best bowlers, at all those who really last, Underwood has a lovely rhythm. Although he has a long run, it is smooth and economical. On tour, when he is bowling only three or four days a week, it thus, there is much less

danger than in England of his becoming jaded.

In Delhi, on the fourth day of the first Test match, he bowled for three hours and a half on end and revelled in it. In Calcutta, he did the same, for slightly longer. Here in Madras, he came on in India's second innings before a wicket had fallen and was still bowling when the match ended. He has been in the series as a rock bowler who has yet managed to keep the batsmen under pressure by having three or four men close to the bat. What few catches have been dropped by England have usually been by Underwood, partly because the fielders are so close. In the third Test match there were four—three of them half catches.

England's fielding has mostly been wonderfully good, with Old, Brearley and Greig holding on to almost everything at slip (Brearley, they have taken 13 catches and missed nothing palpable) and three or four of the others swooping about the field like athletes. If England's batting ("We have got a long way to go before sorting that out," Greig says) had been as good as the bowling and fielding we really would have side to get the Ashes back. In India on the last MCC tour he made a difference: they knew already the absolute importance of Ken Barrington and his length, as of course did Ken Barrington and his length. One last thing about Underwood. When I said to him recently that it must be nice to have the field to himself, without Edmonds being here, his answer was that it did give him an added responsibility



## inzarote adds to s experience steeplechasing

12st 6lb in what was round, Tiepolino was eight lengths by The young half-brother, Kas, not discredited. Indeed.

**Housewives' choice perhaps, but not bookmakers' : Charlotte Brew, one of two women jockeys in the Grand National for the first time, exercises Barony Fort, 200-1 for the big race.**

From an Irish Racing Correspondent  
Dublin, Jan 20

Rosens Bar, a Grand National entrant, went to the front at the start of the second circuit and led until headed at the third last fence by the favourite, Bannow Rambler. In the home straight, a free-moving Bannow Rambler looked certain to justify favouritism, for up to this point the race had been a close-run thing. However, he got tired coming to the final jump and, making a bad blunder, lost several lengths. Bannow Rambler was then able to take advantage to get alongside and halve up the run home to win by a neck. Ahead of him came a much weaker combination of 12 st and the concession of 7 lb to Bannow Rambler too much for the runner-up in the final strides the Irish War Jack was unable to match. The race was a fine example of counter in Ireland before they meet at Cheltenham. The Wexford won't fade Bannow Rambler to nominate the PZ Mower Steeplechase at Thurles for Bannow Rambler and Bunty Cox said that the race was a fine example of counter between that race and the Harold Clarke Memorial Steeplechase at Leopardstown on February 19.

That statement by Lord Justice Pearce was the clearest possible indication that the type of right under consideration—to have the criminal law of the land obeyed—vested in the community, not separately in each of the 52 million inhabitants of this country. There-

**Lord Justice Ormrod :** In practical terms you are saying that the Attorney's refusal to authorize a release action prevents anyone

Mr Newman, for the applicant Mr Gourié, said that his fundamental submission was that the present case was one for the Attorney General and it was inconceivable how the Attorney could

would very properly take that into account in considering the application for his consent in the present proceedings. If the course of conduct by the individual union was being taken too far, holding up the law to disrespect and ridicule, that was a factor which no public officer could accept and if he did accept it, it was a form

[illegible]

## Kempton Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent

**12.30 Valiant Charge.** 1.0 Narnibbini. 1.30 King Commander. 2.0 Tumble Rock. 2.30 The Smepe. 3.0 MIDSUMMER LAD is specially recommended. 3.30 Slips. 4.0 Modesty Forbids.

**5.00 (+3.01) DRAWIDGE STEEPLE-CHASE** (+1.64¢ 3.0m.)  
Specially recommended by Messrs. Goss  
and Howard de Walden.  
**ALSO RAN:** 3.1 Timber Roy, 3 yms. TOTW. Wgt. 38lb. dist. forecast. Slip. B. Wood at Lambourn. At 41.

**5.30 (-4.01) GREAT BRITAIN CUP**

Labour Relations Act, 1974, provides that "Subject to subsection (2), no person shall lie in respect of any act alleged to have been done by or on behalf of a trade union in tort and paragraph (c) "alleged to be threatened or to be intended to be threatened." That provision is not contradicted by the provisions under the Trade Disputes Act, 1966.

The Master of the Rolls: So as to

Counsel: But the court does appear to be saying: "If he can show that the act done by the courts can be put in motion by an individual in respect of a criminal offence, then he may show a special interest, or any special right which is being or is about to be infringed."

The Master of the Rolls: I am not saying anything of the kind. I am saying: "If there is existence a right for Mr. Souriat to come to

delivered and sought a similar jurisdiction in this court in a separate case. The Fox Office Corporation was joined and representations were made in the House of Commons.

The ban began on the Monday of that particular week. There were a number of members of the House of Commons on Thursday afternoon. That afternoon I was instructed to seek the same relief as I was held shown.

Counsel said that he would go into the history of the law to show how the Attorney General had been controlled by the courts and that his discretion was not absolute.

The hearing was adjourned.

Solicitors: Trower, Still & Keeling; Simpson, Millar; Shaen, Rogers & Bracewell; Treasury Solicitor.

The second question to be determined was whether Mrs

Smith should have been added to the list of beneficiaries of the trust, and the addition of income capital profits arising on any change of investments, after meeting the needs of the other beneficiaries, was properly treated as income but the question was whether it was related to capital and was related to capital income on investment.

In his Lordship's opinion, the testator, by the words "interests and any other benefits" had intended to include the fulfilment of the first of the











Bernard Levin

## Now they've found their mittens we should start to cry

I'll bet you'll never guess what's taking over the world now. The crabs, that's what. Or so, at any rate, I deduce from a report not long ago by the Science Correspondent of the *Daily Another Newspaper*. It seems that a certain species of Chinese crab (devilish cunning, these Chinese crabs, especially, I suppose, when devilled) have arrived in English waters wearing mittens. (Look, I know you weren't born yesterday, but I tell you the little bleeders wear mittens. Fur mittens. It said so in the paper. They're actually called "mitten crabs" because of it. You'll allow that's logical, at any rate?)

I have heard of Russians with snow on their boots, but crabs with fur on their claws are another kind of fright altogether. To start with, the thought of a perfectly ordinary crab scuttling towards me, with nothing on its claws but a wisp of seaweed, is enough to give me a massive dose of the heebie-jeebies; if I met one which was actually trying to convince passers-by that it was a cat (and a pretty convincing cat it would make, too, fur mittens or no fur mittens), I would refuse to be held responsible for my actions, particularly since these creatures include jumping clean through the nearest window without first troubling to open it.

### Something immeasurably ancient

There is something almost prehistoric about a crab. The armour, the irregular method of progress, the difficulty it presents to those (I am not among them) who wish to know where its head, mouth, eyes and brain are located, even if only to be able to decide which way it is going; these characteristics suggest something immeasurably ancient, here long before man appeared and destined to remain long after he has gone. H. G. Wells's *The Time Machine*, I recall, has a scene in which the traveller goes so far into the future that the earth has stopped revolving and the sun has gone out; but he is on the beach on which the lands are the crabs, grown huge but still recognizable.

On the other hand, Wells, though a dab hand at the horror (the description of the fight between the giant wasp and the man with the sword, in *The Food of the Gods*, in which the creature stings him just as he slashes it with the weapon, ends with the hauntingly awful words "Of the two, the man died first") did not equip his end-of-the-world crustaceans with fur mittens, possibly because he thought that would be rather over-egging the pudding, or at any rate the crab soufflé. But now the things—things, really—have turned up in the cooling system of the West Thurrock power station, which suggests that they are not just horrors from the nightmares of outer space but horrors from the nightmares of outer space which have been carefully trained by the Chinese to discover the secrets of British power stations.

No doubt somebody will now profess not to understand what I am making such a fuss about. If the crabs are the worst, cold (and what evidence have I that crabs are less affected

by the cold than I am?) what more natural than that they should don fur mittens—and for that matter, if they feel like it, muffs, woolly jumpers, knitted scarves, balaclava helmets and sheepskin-lined overcoats?

I suppose I would be accused of even greater indifference to the interests of the crabs if I were to reply that any crab which would like me to get it warm has only to step smartly forward in the direction of my saucer, whereupon I will do the rest. But assuming that the crabs want to be warmed up for their own purposes rather than mine, there is still something so extraordinarily incompatible about the thought of fur in connection with such a creature that the mind recoils in alarm. Apart from anything else, I have always understood that, with the exception of whales (which are mammals) all sea creatures are cold-blooded, so that if the crabs are giving us their excuse for wearing fur mittens the temperature of the water, they are almost certainly conceding something, and something pretty nasty, too. Come to think of it, I know of no aquatic beast which has fur, unless you count a seal. (I have a very handsome black sealskin hat, which I wear only in the bitterest winter weather, and which I acquired long before the ecology-merchants had devised their own contribution to the noble art of making life unpleasant for other people; I now tend to run after passers-by whom I see eyeing it with disavour, crying "The animal died of old age, I tell you, with all its children and grandchildren round its bed.")

### They have ominous pincers

Crabs are, I insist, sinister. They have too many legs, they have ominous pincers, their shape is like nothing else on earth. For uncountable billions of years they have not changed that shape, and now, it seems, they have decided to grow fur on their claws and come to England (having, it is alleged, "swum away" from the Chinese waters), as if that information was supposed to provide reassurance.

This seems an appropriate moment—if it does nothing else, it will help to while away the time until the scaly tap on the door is heard—for me to tell my Uncle Salome's story about the boy-crab who fell in love with girl-oyster, and vice versa. The oyster's father, however, forbade the marriage, declaring that he would not allow into his family a creature which walked sideways. The oyster began to pine for her love, this cruelly rejected until one night the door of the family home was flung open, and in strode the crab, walking perfectly straight forward, then turning and walking, equally directly, in the other direction. While the father oyster smiled broadly and bade his future son-in-law welcome, the daughter rushed forward and threw her arms around the crab's neck. "Don't say a word," he hissed in her ear; "I'm drunk."

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## Mr. Algy, you surprised me.

I had made up my mind to buy a gold watch. Your selection, as I had expected, was exquisite.

Then you showed me the Royal Oak. The stainless steel watch made by Audemars Piguet.

Intractable metal had been patiently coaxed into an extraordinarily thin yet strong case. Eight tiny, hexagonal nuts locked the distinctive bezel to the deep blue face.

I slipped it onto my wrist. Its lightness surprised me. I had never imagined steel could feel so smooth.

When steel can be so beautiful, gold itself cannot be more precious.

Mr. Algy, I think I have changed my mind.



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## Reconciling devolved power with Westminster representation

# Rough justice may be needed to fix the right number of Scottish and Welsh MPs

Of the many problems presented by devolution the one that is most disconcerting to supporters of the scheme is what to do about Scottish and Welsh representation at Westminster. Is it right that Scottish and Welsh MPs should still be able to speak and vote on schools and housing in England, for example, when they are in those fields for Scotland and to some extent for Wales will be determined by the assemblies?

The question is asked more and more insistently by opponents of devolution in order to show its inherent contradictions. But it is disconcerting for those of us who none the less remain broadly in favour, because it might as well be admitted that there is no absolutely right answer to the question. Whatever is done there are bound to be anomalies.

There are three choices. The first is to leave the number and powers of Scottish and Welsh MPs unchanged. That is what the Government still proposes to do. It is in their party interest because Labour has a majority of seats in both countries. It also has the advantage, not to be despised by hard pressed ministers, of dispensing with the obligation to think of any alternative.

The second choice, which is now favoured by the SNP, would be to deny Scottish MPs the right to vote on purely English and Welsh legislation (so long as the Welsh assembly is not given legislative powers the right of their MPs to vote at Westminster could hardly be limited) while probably, though not necessarily,

leaving their number unchanged.

This is the old "in and out" principle that keeps popping up in devolution schemes down the years. It was initially in Gladstone's second Irish Home Rule Bill in 1893 but had to be discarded because of widespread criticism of both its practicality and its logic.

The proposal then was to divide all parliamentary business into Imperial, British and Irish matters, giving Irish MPs the right to take part only on Imperial and Irish questions. This would have presented no particular problems so far as legislation was concerned. Indeed, it is now the practice for the Speaker to rule whether a Bill is a purely Scottish piece of legislation in order to determine whether it should be sent to the Scottish standing committee or to the House of Commons.

The logic of such a scheme would be even more in doubt. If it were applied now, it would mean that where a government's majority in the House of Commons depended on the balance of votes in Scotland—the only circumstance in which the right of Scottish MPs to vote on English business at Westminster would be of more than academic importance—ministers would not be able to get contentious English legislation through Parliament.

Social legislation could be enacted for Scotland because it

would have an assembly through which its executive could expect to pass its Bills, and would then be in jeopardy because the United Kingdom Government could not call on the support of Scottish MPs at Westminster. That would seem a bizarre way for the English to ensure that the Scots did not have the best of both worlds.

The third course would be to reduce the number of Scottish and Welsh MPs. There is no point in pretending that this would be an adequate answer in logic to the objection that it would be unfair for Scottish MPs to vote on English legislation in fields where decisions for Scotland are taken in the assembly. The anomaly would remain no matter how few Scottish MPs there were.

But it is equally an illusion to suppose that numbers have nothing to do with the question. The anomaly is already hallowed by precedent in the case of Northern Ireland. There were Northern Irish MPs at Westminster throughout the years when Northern Ireland had its own assembly at Stormont.

They were not a cause of affront during this time because there have been so few of them. The number of Irish MPs at Westminster, under the terms of which Stormont was set up, reduced their number to 13—which subsequently became 12 on the abolition of the university seats—whereas the number of Irish MPs in comparison of population. Even so, there have been occasions when the balance of representation from Northern

Ireland has significantly affected the strength of a British Government, though it has never actually determined which party would form the government.

The Article Government's margin of eight seats over the Conservatives and Liberals combined in the 1950 parliament would have been rather less assured without the Northern Irish MPs. But it was in 1964 that they were of most consequence.

The Wilson Government then had an overall majority of only four in a parliament where all 12 Northern Irish members were Conservative. Without them there might not have been a general election as early as 1966 and the subsequent course of British politics might have been different.

All of these instances arose, however, after the pattern of Northern Irish representation had been established for some time. So it was seen by then not as a potential iniquity but as one of those quirks in the British constitution that as a people we tend to regard with affection and even pride if we have put up with them for long enough.

The best hope is that Scottish and possibly Welsh representation at Westminster will come to be seen in the same light. The prospects will be all the better if they do not hold the balance of power in the early years at least. That is the nub of the matter. It would be sheer hypocrisy for English

MPs to pretend that they will feel deprived at no longer being able to deal with Scottish business, which they have always considered a monumental bore.

What they fear is the Scots being able to determine who holds office at Westminster as well as in the assembly, and there would be less chance of that if there were fewer Scottish MPs.

At the moment both Scotland and Wales are over-represented at Westminster in terms of population. That stems from the Representation of the People Act of 1918 which implemented the recommendations of the Speaker's Conference of the year before. It was confirmed by the 1944 Speaker's Conference and in subsequent legislation.

Two reasons were given unofficially on behalf of this second Speaker's Conference: national sentiment and the consideration that Scotland and Wales had lost population because of the depression, which could partly be attributed to failures of government policy. To reduce Scottish and Welsh representation as a consequence, it was argued, would be to punish them politically as well as economically for the failings of government. This argument must have seemed strange at the time and would be absurd as a basis for decision today.

National sentiment is being acknowledged by the creation of assemblies. But there is a third argument that is still valid: the need to take into account not only population but distances in sparsely populated constituencies, especially towards the extremes of

Britain. But that could no longer be an over-riding factor when assemblies are up. The Kilbrandon Commission thought it should and the time has surely come to reconsider the situation at Westminster.

That raises the question of Northern Ireland's continued under-representation, equally unjustified under the new situation. It is a prospect of a new St.

It would be impossible to deal with Northern Ireland under the umbrella Scotland and Wales. The Government are planning announcing a mid-term stage proceeds representation of Northern Ireland is to be reexamined: best course would be that a Speaker's Conference be convened on this and other matters that the Government recommend the equalization according to population of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland would mean cutting the number of seats for Scotland to 57 and for Wales to 31.

That would be no rough justice. But it is the best practicable solution. It would mean that the Government would be recommending the equalization of the House of Commons.

Geoffrey

## Urban bias in the Third World means that real needs are ignored

# Why overseas aid does not make the poor richer

By 1978-79 Britain's development aid is to be slashed by 20 per cent. Other private sources of funds seem discredited by endless revelations, from ITT in Chile to Haw Par in Singapore. As for export earnings, the poorest countries find that their prices—for Indian tea or Bangladeshi jute—lag far behind oil and oil-based manufactures, which are essential imports for development. Is the "New International Economic Order" mere empty talk?

Despite the gloom, longer-term post-colonial development has by conventional standards been amazingly successful. After centuries of widespread stagnation, the Third World has since 1950 roughly doubled real income-per-person. Behind the figures there is genuine development, measurable not just in new factories and dams but in falling mortality and rising literacy. Nor has aid been irrelevant. Some 10 per cent of the big differences among poor countries in growth is statistically linked to differences in their aid receipts (roughly matching the 10-12 per cent of their investment paid for by aid).

The gloom prevails because growth and development have done hardly anything for the poorest half of the Third World's swelling populations. In Brazil in the 1960s their real average income grew by under 1 per cent; that of the richer half, by over 30 per cent. In almost all the large poor countries, notably India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia and the Philippines, recent research has revealed stagnation or decline in the living standards of the poorest 20 to 40 per cent, especially in the rural areas.

Agriculture must hold the key. The great mass of the

very poor are small farmers or landless labourers (and even the urban poor, in the slums and urban areas, are for lack of agricultural prospects). They must spend three-quarters of their income (and over half of any extra income) to feed themselves. So, if food output and calorie intake per person stagnate—and in most poor countries they are no higher now than in 1934—the welfare of the rural poor cannot improve much. Indeed, whereas the non-agricultural sector of Europe, about 150 years ago, averaged only one and a half times the income of the rural poor, in the Third World today it is typically as high as four to one.

In most poor countries today, domestic investment patterns make matters worse. Only one-fifth of capital investment, and an even lower proportion of "human capital" in the form of skilled persons, supports the 70 per cent of workers who practise agriculture—a major reason why they produce only 40 per cent of output. Such a capital famine seems unfair to agriculturalists, who start much poorer. It has proved inefficient too. Typically, if the last £10m invested in agriculture had been put into agriculture instead, it would have yielded at least twice as much. Efficiency has also suffered as shortages of food or raw materials, from the neglected farm sector, have compelled cutbacks in the very strategy of industrialization which the neglect of agriculture was supposed to have speeded up.

Why do Third World politicians use public resources, and adjust incentives to the use of private resources, in this anti-rural way? Because they face a

special problem: urban bias. In poor countries urban pressure groups—business, labour, bureaucracy—have acquired power, articulateness, ideology and prestige far beyond their size or economic importance. Many Third World politicians know this: they want to assist small-scale cereal farmers, whom they know to be labour-intensive and efficient; projects directed at urban growth. But it is hopeless to expect the three-week appraisal from the air-conditioned hotel to find, or to monitor, dispersed activities designed to raise the income, self-reliance and status of the rural poor.

The first big problem is how to identify, select and evaluate such activities. Their apparent scarcity has been one cause of the shortage of aid (and domestic investment) for agriculture. Given urban bias, governments—and consultants—will prepare and polish projects in heavy industry, transport and power, often leaving potentially much better rural projects too under-prepared to attract funds. Aid donors cannot, of course, intervene while a government selects and evaluates projects for them; but they can help it to do so more effectively. The alternative is a vast expansion of hastily-identified rural projects, in the short run matching the donor agency's wish to meet cash targets for poverty programmes against poverty, but in the long run discriminating such programmes as "attempts to cure poverty by throwing money at it".

Project monitoring is even more important. Without it the money for a well-selected project will reach neither its poor and weak, and with it even a badly-selected project

can often be "brought round". Monitoring a piece of single-crop rice, for example, or a steel mill or a power station—means ensuring the money is spent and the goods delivered in the right way and the right order, and with the right effect on the project's expected output. Monitoring of activities to help the rural poor towards self-reliance development requires all this, and more: steady observation, in a few typical affected and (for comparison) unaffected rural communities, of the amount and distribution of income, as well as during and after the project builds up—of calories, income, maybe even power.

Such work requires residence, not in the best hotel for a few days, but in rural communities for several months. Few Third World governments will welcome such activities by unsupervised outside donors; but many want the resources to enable an independent national agency to do the job, for their own projects as well as aided ones. Competent agencies exist in several developing countries—some of India's Agro-economic Research Centres are outstanding—but often lack the computing, teaching, or other resources to monitor projects. Appropriate international support can strengthen and help these agencies, and build them up in countries where they are not yet present.

Donors—multilateral like the World Bank or bilateral like the Ministry of Overseas Development—are not monoliths. Crudely, they contain two groups. Most of the economists, younger or recently-joined staff, and country specialists support the "new wave" of activities aimed against rural poverty, but

sometimes lack understanding of the management required to follow through, that will get past the structure to the poor, the accountants, or longer-standing staff, feel specialists prefer state, more readily in urban hardware projects sometimes fail to physical structures, they produce growth, less they alleviate poverty to justify finance on aid. Today the new wave, in the main, spends the money on hardware, and for the attack on rural to discredit itself. The state of aid for agriculture is that this will happen: nutrition projects produce costly dairy for the rich, tractorize deep-sea mines, employ capital, and "green" for tenancy their very success cautions, all are being poverty programmes.

The rural spenders' right central idea; but their work will replace generous instructions for project selection and monitoring and general support. Their sincere aim: bring aid to the rural urban black, and for the most of commercial for evaluating and development projects aid.

Michael I  
\* Michael Lipton's *World People Stay Poor: Why World Development published yesterday by Smith.*  
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## The Times Diary

### How to tug a jury's heart strings

parison of compensation rates for various sorts of injury arising from medical negligence. It emerged that for simple loss of an eye, which would not you \$5,000 in Britain, you would be awarded \$20,000 in the rural counties of poorer states in America, but probably \$180,000 dollars in Miami, \$200,000 in California, and \$250,000 in New York. About a third of the American awards would go to the lawyer.

For the death of a "perfectly ordinary housewife of 42", an English doctor used to dealing with compensation cases suggested an award of £10,000. A sharp attorney from Florida leapt in: would let a jury leave a courtroom with the idea that the deceased was "perfectly ordinary".

It is when you can bring in and develop the mental pain and suffering of the bereaved that you can really build up substantial awards. Even if the housewife and her husband were not getting along, or were heading for divorce and all the children were running amok, I could pull down a minimum of \$100,000. If things were better it would go up... and up.

Then they fell to talking about punitive damages, rectifying the wrongs of the law. For example, \$5,92 compensatory damages for a stolen vehicle part, topped off with eight million dollars punitive damages for the accident which lack of the part caused. Glaser

had one in which he had filed for \$750,000 dollars. But the jury was so incensed when we finished they gave us \$1,100,000.

The British public, Glaser concluded, did not know what they were missing. "You miss out completely because you do not have a contingency fees system, so only the very poor, through legal aid, or the very rich, with their own money, can sue. And then you miss out again because you do not usually get choice of jury trial. Judges have everything scheduled out. A jury can bring each case a particular circumstance, and, of course, the trial advocacy. Whatever the merits of the British system, American law certainly works out well for American lawyers.

### Killjoys

The Greater London Council and Westminster City Council are at loggerheads over the celebration of the Silver Jubilee in Leicester Square. The Labour-controlled GLC have already started paving two sides of the square, planting trees, putting in seats and putting up decorative lights. But the killjoy Conservatives of Westminster have scotched the plan to bring in a covered bandstand on the grounds that it would have been an illegal obstruction of the highway, and they object equally strenuously to other GLC plans. The GLC want to have refreshments served in the Square gardens,

to have the gardens open after dusk and to be flooded till midnight—all splendidly jolly ideas.

But Westminster say the GLC plan would turn Leicester Square into a "vandalized tourist camp", encouraging various sorts of anti-social behaviour already witnessed in Piccadilly Circus, close by. They also say that the idea of serving refreshments in the gardens would have irreparable effects on the grass which, they say, is of a particularly delicate strain.

Finally they say the idea of flooding the Square is inappropriate when they are trying to cut spending. "The GLC can bring all sorts of pressure to bear," the Westminster spokesman said, "but we have the whip hand."

### All clean

The last time I wrote about baton and lavatories, a few of you wrote to the editor to complain about my unflattering treatment of the topic. Treacherously, he replied to the effect that he agreed with the complaints, so I had better be extra careful this time.

The occasion for the earlier piece was a chat I had with Alexander Kira, an American who wants to revolutionize our lavatory basins. None of his innovations, though, are on display at the new Bathroom and Shower Centre in Great Portland Street, London, which opened formally yesterday. The ground floor section, for domestic purchasers, contains 11 bathroom settings, which cost from £300 to over £1,500. But the lavatories, bidets and basins are of the conventional design which Kira finds so impractical, though some of the basins are of unusual shape, and there is a thermosafe shower of which he would undoubtedly approve.

I suppose she wants to be re-elected with a convincing minority



The items come in fashionable colours with names like harvest and sepiolite. And the firm are specially proud of their reinforced glass for shower doors. Michael Collins, the company's chairman, revealed that thousands of people every year are quietly lacerating themselves by slipping in the shower and falling through inferior glass. On the first floor things are far less fancy. Most of the equipment is white and strictly practical, because it is designed for institutions. One little section which intrigued me, though, contained items described on the label as being specially suitable for the Middle East. To reinforce the point, it was

labelled in Arabic as well as English.

It looked exactly the other stuff, and in fact it was exactly the same stuff, which I describe to you for fear of currying favour.

### Perfidious

Roy Jenkins, into his hat as President of the E Commission, is growing, by allegations of his re to speak French. The from an incident in Brussels repercussions of which "announced on this page day.

asked by a Belgian te reporter to read his statement to the pr French, Jenkins declin voking sour comment Francophones. But sin the new President has 8 interview to French in French. Close sides putting it about that he French at dinner parties His command of the according to one sou "painful but gran accurate". To retalia ning Francophones have Jenkins "Le roi Jean Q

In spite of the abolition cottages, the Ministry o culture cannot get on habit of treating farm as livestock. A guest answer booklet about ti Renu (Agriculture) A clares that although the lation does not apply to employed by Govt departments, "thera irritative arrangements to that they are treated four with their fellow in the private sector."





## ESIDENT CARTER

my Carter is more of an quantity than anyone cred to the presidency of States in recent times. ord in government, as r of the small state, of four years, is too to provide much of a His campaign was based, in its earlier stages, of unusual extent upon ies. And his inaugural is designed to set a tone than to provide specific as on policy.

theless, there are three of his speech that are of interest in assessing id of president Mr Carter to make. The first is his ic approach to the func- overment. It is true that presidents are always to proclaim their attach- virtue, but there is a force in what Mr Carter say on this topic. This as been an essential part appeal. He would not be it today if he had not id while campaigning for ocratic nomination to a merican desire to be d about the essential of government in the States. This means that of the expectations he sed, and is still deliber- tulating. Mr Carter's tration will be judged to apional degree by its well as its content. What a material successes he, or presides over, his sent will have to be more in its predecessors in its with Congress and the public if it is to be d a success.

second feature of particu- in the Address is pralistic approach to policy, which is quite matter. "Our moral

sense", Mr Carter proclaimed, "dictates a clearcut preference for those societies which share with us an abiding respect for individual human rights." At one level that might be regarded as little more than a statement of the obvious. It is welcome in so far as it betokens a greater awareness that the internal nature of different regimes is a factor in international affairs, and that foreign policy is influenced by the attitudes of peoples as well as by the interests of governments. But if such an approach is taken too far it comes into conflict with the canons of classical diplomacy which are concerned with the fact of power and its containment by the international community. The balance of power and spheres of influence are not inventions of the devil. The danger with Dr Kissinger was that he would pay too much regard to the realities of power: the danger with Mr Carter is that he may pay too little.

There is another risk with a particularly moralistic foreign policy: that its practitioners may become so accustomed to wearing a cloak of righteousness that they forget to put it aside when they are furthering their own national interest. The name of John Foster Dulles is scored on British memories. But Mr Carter has laid special stress on his wish for partnership with the other nations of the world. He does not start with the illusion that the United States alone can solve the problems of mankind.

All these dangers are reduced, indeed, by the third feature of Mr Carter's Address: its caution. He went out of his way to emphasize the limitations of what

government can achieve and provide: "We have learned that 'more' is not necessarily 'better', that even our great nation has its recognized limits, and that we can neither answer all questions nor solve all problems." That is in keeping with the mood of the United States over the past few years when there has been a strong reaction against the gospel of big government. There is no longer the belief that greater government involvement, and the spending of more public money, are the natural answers to most problems—and therefore no longer the political imperative on office-holders to promise to solve all problems.

Mr Carter's sense of caution has been confirmed by his appointments. During his campaign he promised to bring new faces to Washington: in practice he has shown his respect for experience. This has brought on him the wrath of liberal critics at home, but these are not complaints that should be echoed on this side of the Atlantic. We have no reason to press an adventurous policy on Mr Carter. Indeed, in one of the most important of all fields the danger is that he may be too adventurous—in his conduct of the economy the fear must be that his eagerness to get the American economy moving again may cause him to reflate too much with consequent risks of national and international inflation. Even here, though, Mr Carter has been rather more cautious than many people had expected. One of the reasons he is the unknown President is that so frequently his policies are carefully qualified, which means that more will depend than with most holders of his office upon how he responds to its pressures.

## The government of Ulster

From Sir Patrick Macrory

Sir, I do hope that someone in authority is paying attention to the letters of Mr Paul Maguire and Mr David Morrison (January 17) and in particular to the point made by Mr Morrison that the major local government services of Northern Ireland, such as health and education, are now subject to no local democratic control at all.

This is a situation ludicrously different from that recommended in 1970 by the Review Body on Local Government in Northern Ireland. There were then three tiers of local government: the county, the borough and the district. The county and borough councils were responsible for services such as health and education, and the district councils for the Stormont Parliament and Government, functioning in several respects as a local authority: six county and two borough councils; and 65 urban, rural and borough councils. I said my colleagues (in a unanimous report) thought that this was an over-elaborate structure for a province smaller in extent than Yorkshire, with a population of about 11 millions and a rateable value at that time lower than that of the City of Leeds.

We recommended the elimination of the middle tier, the county and borough councils, and the transfer of their responsibilities for services such as health and education to Stormont itself. The recommendations were in general welcomed by both sides and accepted by the Stormont Administration. The councils were dismantled and their assets and functions transferred to Stormont—which a year or so later itself disappeared. It is to me unthinkable that we would have recommended the abolition of the county councils if we could have guessed that this was going to happen.

The Review Body had been insistent that these great local government services must be democratically controlled, at least in the sense that a citizen with a query or grievance about them should be able to have recourse to a elected representative with his problem and in the last resort compel an elected representative (as it might be, the Minister of Health) to stand up in an elected assembly (Stormont) and answer for his services. Today the citizen has no such redress. It is unlikely in the extreme that he will ever be able to get his query raised in far-off Westminster by one of the twelve Ulster MPs with their huge constituencies. I hear from my friends in Ulster respecting complete delay in decisions and of the difficulty of extracting an answer from the anonymous ranks of the bureaucrats.

At the same time the citizens of Ulster are from time to time exhorted from across the water to join a select committee, which is no political forum in which to do so except the district councils, which their strictly limited and local powers. The political vacuum is almost total.

Why is nothing being done? At the moment the county and borough councils, or better, as I think, establish an elected Combined Councils Council for the whole of the province, a council which, initially at least, would have no powers only. The Stormont buildings, complete with library, Hansard and other services, stand ready to house such a body. It may be that the way back to peace, sanity and cooperation is to be found in the field of local government. At the moment the level of the district councils the signs of cooperation are encouraging.

Yours sincerely,  
PATRICK MACRORY,  
Chairman of the Review Body on Local Government in Northern Ireland, 1970.  
The Athenaeum,  
Pall Mall, SW1,  
January 18.

## Plight of the Banabans

From Sir Bernard Braine, MP for South Essex (Conservative)

Sir, Both Sir John Peel (letters, January 14) and Mr Bernard Thorogood (letters, January 12) take issue with one aspect of my report of January 10 calling for the justice to be done to the Banabans. Both contend that the Banabans are Gilbertese and that the latter have, for this reason, the right to enjoy the assets of the former.

Sir John produced any evidence of historical links between the Gilbertese and Banabans, namely "an important chief marriage" between Beru in the Gilberts and the Banabans.

I hesitate to question a former Minister of the Colonies of the Gilberts, but a paper I have before me by a predecessor of his, Mr R. E. Maude, the acknowledged authority on the area, dates this link at AD 1659 when some fugitives from political upheavals in the Gilberts arrived on Ocean Island and intermarried freely with the Banabans.

There was scarcely any other contact because Ocean Island was virtually inaccessible to the Gilberts until the arrival of European sailing ships. In short, there is no evidence that Ocean Island was regarded as part of the Gilberts until it was made so by British officials after the discovery there of rich phosphate deposits.

The right to tax Banaban phosphates to finance the administration of the Gilbert Islands, a charge which would otherwise have fallen to the British Treasury, derives from the exercise of British sovereignty over the area, not from any kinship links between the indigenous inhabitants.

No Member of Parliament, as far as I am aware, has any wish to ignore the interests of the Gilbertese people. But it is Ocean Island, not any one of the 16 Gilbert atolls, which has been usually ravaged by British, Australian and New Zealand beneficence. It is the Banabans, not the Gilbertese, who have been mercilessly bullied and cheated by successive British administrations. The Government must not be allowed to continue to shunt the Banabans' profound emotional and cultural attachment to their homeland until the proceeds from the last tone of phosphate has been used to absolve Britain from her financial obligations towards her Gilbert Islands Colony.

Yours sincerely,  
BERNARD BRAINE,  
House of Commons.

## Educating our masters

From Sir Eric Roll

Sir, Your leader yesterday (January 18) on "Educating our Masters" is welcome since it raises a very important point. It is also, in my view, right in its criticism of the Fulton Report and its sequelae. But I think there is a danger that in your emphasis on the training of civil servants (however meritorious the idea of a Staff College in itself may be) you may be helping to perpetuate the error which was the fundamental one in Fulton.

The real problem is not the training of civil servants but the relationship between the administrator and the politician which, for reasons which you yourself give, has for some time now been in a state of flux. The old theory that "officials advise and execute while ministers decide policy" is to put it at its lowest, no longer adequate as a basis for their relationship.

It is in clarifying this problem, together with a host of other extremely difficult ones, such as the relationship between the executive and Parliament, that the true task lies. I fear that merely training civil servants more in the supposedly important but often questioned areas of business management, or whatever else may be advocated, will hardly go anywhere to contribute to its solution.

Incidentally, it is interesting that you should end on a high note concerning Ecole Nationale d'Administration when, as far as I am aware, that great French institution is coming under increasing questioning in its own country.

Yours truly,  
ERIC ROLL,  
D2 Albany,  
Piccadilly, W1,  
January 19.

## Newspaper troubles

From Mr Kenneth G. Braidwood

Sir, The casualty of the letters from Messrs K. Smith and J. Moseley (January 15 and 19) is galling. Mr David Astor's analysis of the troubles in Fleet Street which are the responsibility of management, journalists and operatives is well known throughout the industry. These facts have been a scandal since the 50s.

As a director of the 'Economist Intelligence Unit' (EIU) in November, 1966, under the direction of Mr Geoffrey Browne, the then managing director of the EIU, I was responsible for presenting a report on the national newspaper industry which was commissioned by the Joint Board for the National Newspapers Industry (JBNNI), an organisation which was composed of representatives of the Newspaper Publishers' Association (NPA), the proprietors and the unions including craft and industrial representatives.

This report, which had taken many months to prepare, was intended to be entirely confidential to the industry. However, because sections of the report gained unauthorized publicity, it was decided by the Joint Board that the report should be published in its entirety for general circulation. This was done and it was freely available to all who wanted a copy from the offices of the NPA.

This report, which remains available in many reference libraries, fully vindicates the statements of Mr Astor. At the time of its publication it was agreed by the representatives of management and unions that it was a fair and independent and reliable study of the national newspaper business although each representative of the JBNNI did not necessarily agree with every sentence in the report.

The present problems which the industry faces are not the outcome of difficulties which developed in recent months, or the past two or three years, they have been developing since the 50s. That they are recurring the attention they deserve now is a measure of the extremely precarious financial position of the majority of national newspapers which has in large part arisen from the mismanagement and trade union practices of the past 20 years.

Yours sincerely,  
KENNETH G. BRAIDWOOD,  
15 Pembroke Court,  
Edwards Square,  
Kensington, W8,  
January 19.

## The sale of Mentmore

From the Editor of The Connoisseur

Sir, I am writing to you about Mentmore because the wrong decision has been taken about the future of this house and its collections, which are not widely known and which are of paramount importance. The case of Mentmore demonstrates in extreme form the problems faced by the owner of such a heritage, the government department responsible for negotiating its future and the saleroom, in this case Sotheby's, brought in to advise.

Mentmore was built for Baron Meyer Amstel de Rothschild to the designs of Sir Joseph Paxton and G. H. Stokes between 1850 and 1855. It is a grand, cumbersome and remarkable building in the English Renaissance style. Meyer Amstel's taste was in advance of his time and even the resources at his disposal, it is not surprising that he was able to bring together one of the most remarkable collections in Britain.

Even if one were to leave aside the paintings by Rembrandt, Murillo and Turner, the Sevres porcelain, tapestries, bronzes, Limoges enamels and priceless objects from the Doge's Palace in Venice, the collection of French furniture would rank as one of the finest in the world.

The fifth Earl of Rosebery

It must be admitted that the results, the "economic vicissitudes" that have coincided with the substantial influx of economists and statisticians into Whitehall" might seem to justify this reprimand.

On a closer look at our mistresses a different picture emerges quite apart from the fact that their advice might well have been disregarded (a matter which cannot as yet be discussed). The article forgets that the staff college is far too young to have as yet produced permanent secretaries or even deputies. In the meantime the destruction of intellectual investment in expert knowledge continues by a "career planning" which snatches the ablest from the fields in which they excelled to mould them into "all rounders".

Secondly, the staff college has to a large extent been expatriated into the rhododendron bushes of Ascot, which obviously limits the extent to which a broad spectrum of experts can be systematically used to mould the outlook and analytical capacity of our budding "masters" at the various levels of their career. Finally the syllabus, so far as I have experienced it, seems capable of radical improvement.

I hope that the reconsideration of the organization and syllabus will not be conducted in deepest secrecy which in this (as in other) vital matters has in the past led to less than optimal solutions. The French example shows that startling improvements in the international standing of a civil service can be obtained by a well-planned staff college.

As to the suggestion that the training of civil servants should be entrusted to business schools, I do not believe that the level or improvement of our management justifies the confidence expressed by your correspondents (January 20).

Yours etc,  
THOMAS BALOGH,  
Balliol College,  
Oxford,  
January 20.

## From Mr John Cragie

Sir, In reply to K. P. Smith and your editorial (January 15) regarding the non-appearance of *The Times* on January 14, I would like to put my point of view.

I am a newsagent and would like to point out to all Sogat, Napsop and NGA members that if they condone to disrupt the publishing of national daily papers, they are quite happily cutting their own throats. Since Christmas Eve some 20 million papers have been lost, so the newsagent has had nothing to sell or deliver. It is a great national habit receiving your morning paper, but without newsagents and their customers, your unions need not print any. So take heed unions and let's have some papers to sell and we can keep our business and your jobs profitable.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN CRAGIE, Member of the National Federation Retail Newsagents' Newcastle/Tyne Branch,  
3 Bedeburn Road,  
Westerhope,  
Newcastle Upon Tyne,  
January 16.

## 'What the Papers Say'

From the Chairman of Granada Television

Sir, David Astor's strange outburst in his letter to *The Times*, January 19, about the programme *What the Papers Say* appeared the day after a large and friendly gathering of newspaper proprietors, editors and journalists had met for a lunch to celebrate the programme's 21st anniversary and to hear an announcement of its annual awards to the press.

Any evidence of a state of warfare between the media was conspicuously absent. Had Mr Astor seen even a representative sample of the 1,010 editions transmitted so far he would realize that the programme's criticism of Fleet Street is usually friendly and often appreciative. Of course there is the occasional skirmish, as there must be when criticism is lively, but any campaign to discredit the press exists only in his imagination. If Mr Astor doubts this, he could consult any of the following Maoist guerrillas, each of whom has presented a score or more editions of *What the Papers Say*: Brian Innes, Michael Frayn, Harry Evans, Bill Grundy, Michael Parkinson, Anthony Howard, Richard Ingrams, George Gale; or any of the founding producers: Jeremy Isaacs, David Plewright, Michael Woolfer and myself.

Yours faithfully,  
DENIS FORMAN, Chairman,  
Granada Television,  
36 Golden Square, W1,  
January 20.

married Rothschild's daughter in 1878 and his grandson, the present Earl, offered the house and contents to the nation in lieu of death duties. Negotiations went on for many weary months to determine the feasibility of the plan. Eventually, the car was put before the horse and the Victoria and Albert Museum who would have had the task of running the house, had far less opportunity to examine the collection than the Sotheby's representatives, whose view of the problem must be very different. They are after all, primarily concerned with making money for their clients and themselves and cannot be thought of as guardians of the nation's heritage.

It seems that Mentmore must now go the way of Blackmore and other comparable houses. In terms of its intrinsic quality and historical interest, the importance of this collection, as a collection, cannot be overestimated; it reflects the highly civilized taste of a very wealthy man collecting as he goes when Britain's real power was at its greatest. It is scandalous that it should be broken up, and the Department of the Environment, perhaps even Sotheby's, owe all those interested an explanation.

Yours faithfully,  
WILLIAM ALLAN,  
Editor, *The Connoisseur*,  
Chatterbox House,  
Vauxhall Bridge Road, SW1,  
January 19.

## Improving our surroundings

From Professor Sir Colin Buchanan

Sir, Whenever I return to this country from my travels I experience a profound feeling of thankfulness that I live where I do, and there is much more to this than the mere fact of returning home. Even so, this feeling is tempered by the realization that there are many things which other countries seem to manage much better than we do.

One of these concerns the way we design and maintain our surroundings. I do not refer to the complex social problems of inner city areas or anything like that, but simply to the architecture of buildings and the design of everything that is seen and used by the public, including the seats, the litter bins, the waiting surfaces, the walls, the lights, the planting, the bus shelters and the things on private property, which nevertheless form part of the public environment.

When I compare our standards in these matters with those of many other European countries, I conclude that we are far behind, with a great deal of our work being cheap, shoddy, commonplace and out of tune. This is a pity because the quality of a nation's architecture and public design is an index, though admittedly not the only one and certainly not the most important one, of its level of culture.

This state of affairs exists in spite of the work of the planning authorities, the Design Council, the Civic Trust and its breed of local societies, and the Royal Fine Art Commission. It seems to be one of those cases, not uncommon in our society today, where lots of people are heaving away, convinced they are changing things for the better when in fact, because there is no one to take an independent, overall view, there is either no change at all or things are actually getting worse. What seems to be needed in the case I am discussing is some body to oversee the position and to represent as necessary.

It is my view that the need would best be filled by a reconstituted Royal Fine Art Commission. I have been privileged to serve on the Commission and I do not seek for any moment to criticize its work, which is full of references. But the fact remains that for practical purposes, the Commission only pronounces on designs for buildings submitted to it by local authorities who find themselves, in the end, the total of these cases is a mine of frustration of all the buildings erected annually.

The Commission's throughput is not enough to be doing anything for British architecture, though it may prevent some crimes. I am not suggesting that the Commission should become some kind of planning authority checking every planning application—bitter experience since 1947 shows that good design does not come that way.

I suggest that whilst continuing to deal with individual controversial designs, the Commission's main task should be to oversee the physical environment, to report fearlessly where things are going wrong or taste is hopelessly bad, and to advise on measures required of which education is likely to be the most important. For truly has it been said that people get the architecture they deserve.

Yours faithfully,  
COLIN BUCHANAN,  
Visiting Professor,  
Imperial College of Science and Technology, SW7,  
January 19.

## Entering Britain

From Mr Arthur S. Ables

Sir, Holders of British passports, very rightly, enter a special gate when going through immigration at British airports.

People from the Commonwealth and "other" countries also have separate channels.

The fourth division is for "All Other Passports", and that's where I found myself, 400th in line, a few mornings ago at Heathrow.

About an hour later I was able to rejoin my wife who is British and who had slipped through in no time at all.

As a resident (and taxpayer) in Britain for almost 30 years, may I suggest that one of the three privileged channels be extended to British residents?

This would spare us the need to shuffle into Britain along with Jumbo-loads of tourists—and it might even, however slightly, reduce their suffering, too.

Yours faithfully,  
ARTHUR ABLES,  
From the office of the Co-Chairman  
Cinema International Corporation,  
139 Piccadilly, W1,  
January 19.

## Homes for the beagles

From the Executive Director of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Sir, As a result of the enormous publicity given to us by the press we have been overwhelmed by the offers of homes for the beagles rescued by the RSPCA. Over 5,000 letters have already been received—including some from Germany—together with an equivalent number of telephone calls.

We are happy to say that every one of the 550 dogs has now been offered a new home but only after each prospective new owner has been made aware of the difficulties to be expected with some of the animals. The RSPCA will continue to carefully monitor the welfare of these animals in their new homes.

We know that the many disappointed applicants will be relieved to know that good homes have been found for these beagles and, if their offer still stands, there are many other animals in RSPCA homes who are anxiously awaiting adoption.

Yours faithfully,  
R. F. SEAGER,  
Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,  
Causeway,  
Horsham,  
Sussex,  
January 17.

## LAMBETH CLEARANCES

actions for the attention Attorney General come id fast. Now another I marginally involved seek his aid to prevent Council from knocking street of more or less le houses to make open the borough's action is sir of a policy adopted years ago, repeatedly d and formally re- and supported both by our and Tory groups in cil. Lambeth has too few in it also has 17,600 in its waiting list for dition. The immediate m demolition, however, 90 squatters, and some ditterness of the affair around the council's e to be seen to allow from interlopers to dices conceived (rightly y) as being for the good local community as a

a crowded urban area th housing and open either need can take precedence. Houses are us resource, but so is ere it is scarce. The n of the borough is

falling, and much of the pressure on the waiting list is due more to public housing policies that tie families to one place even when their jobs are gone than to fondness for the Lambeth scene. The attitude of mind that would forbid all demolitions to create space until the last homeless family has been housed is an excessive reaction to the over-masterful approach of planners ten years ago.

Unfortunately the Kennington Park plan, inherited by Lambeth council, has all the marks of that period in planning. By grassing over a street between two moderate-sized pieces of open space, it is intended to create one large space, very handsome on the map. The acreage of green per head would be marginally increased, but there would be almost no increase in the number of people within easy reach of a park. The convenient radius for prams and small footballers is only a few hundred yards, especially if a busy road intervenes. What is wanted in overcrowded areas—as a series of public meetings in connexion with the Lambeth borough plan confirmed last year—is small parks and plenty of them.

It is inconceivable that the Kennington Park plan would be adopted today if it was a new idea. A council is not necessarily wrong in holding to a project when fashion has turned against it, but the new situation does oblige it to examine its purposes more critically than Lambeth seems to have done. There is no chance of turning St Agnes Place into parkland for years—the GLC has not even been asked for permission to close the road yet. In the meantime the houses could be used for temporary accommodation—an offer has been made to restore them at no cost to the council. But rather than wait to see whether the pendulum of fashion would swing back or not, and ignoring the fact that a court injunction to restrain them was being sought, the council sent in the bulldozers, and several houses were demolished. When councillors consider the matter again next week, they should be at pains not to let their feud with the squatters and their determination to have their own way distort their appreciation of the real needs of their community.

## CHARTISTS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

ors of "Charter 77"—boslovak manifesto on rights published two so—had clearly taken re, in drafting it, in signatures for it, and ing it, to do nothing the law, even in a where law is used to regime established by antly illegal action of oops. They did not ar, for to produce and h a manifesto was nably an act of great irect was to demonstrate nous gap between the of the regime and the to which it officially t. The manifesto began ring to the United inventions on civil and ights and on economic, ad cultural rights— gazzetted in Czechoslovak last year—and to the of the Helsinki confere- of copies of which ally published and dis- throughout Czechoslovak and the whole Soviet id it went on to list ways in which those al commitments are violated in the daily Czechoslovak state.

To make this demonstration effective, it was necessary to deprive the regime of any even remotely convincing excuse for suppressing the manifesto and punishing its authors. That is why they were so careful to emphasize that they were not constituting a political group or an organized movement. But at the same time they must have been well aware that they were issuing a challenge to which the regime could not fail to react; and it has reacted, predictably enough, with further infringements of the human rights of those whom it considers responsible.

More than a hundred of the signatories are thought to have been affected by the wave of arrests and interrogations since the manifesto was published. (Published, that is, in the West—for while the official Czechoslovak papers have carried numerous protest statements and resolutions condemning it, they have not of course published the text itself, though it is known to be circulating covertly.) At least six intellectuals or former politicians are known to have been dismissed from their jobs for signing the charter, including its principal author, Dr Zdenek Mlynar. Most seriously, four

people have been charged with "serious criminal activities directed against the foundations of the republic". Mr Jiri Lederer and Mr Václav Havel in particular face charges which carry heavy prison sentences.

The final act of the Helsinki conference links human rights directly with détente, and gives Western governments both the right and the duty to protest about such blatant infringements. The authors of the charter—who reject the label "dissident intellectuals" and proudly describe themselves as citizens and workers—have explicitly asked for political support from democratic, socialist and communist parties and governments in the West to save them from being "badgered to death" or subjected to "illegal political trials on trumped up charges". The authorities in Prague, though they dare not let their critics' voice be heard, fear also to jeopardise détente. It must be made clear to them that if they continue to harass the authors of "Charter 77" that is precisely what they are doing. From them of all people, no protest about "interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state" need be taken seriously.

cofranchise large numbers of people as would the Government proposals. I believe that the Government will be well advised to follow the recommendations of the Occupational Pensions Board who have advocated that participation should be on a voluntary basis. This would enable arrangements to be made which best suit the membership of individual pension schemes, whether they are represented by unions or not. The legislation being considered by the Government would be divisive and contrary to any sense of natural justice.

Yours, etc,  
K. J. AUSTIN,  
Director of Pensions,  
Tube Investments Limited,  
T1 House,  
Five Ways,  
Birmingham,  
January 11.

## schemes

J. Austin  
S. McLeod, Chairman of Social Security Committee, (The Times, December 17) properly challenged a statement made by the State, Mr Stanley Orme, recent interview with June on the implications verment's proposals for m participation in the f occupational pension

appointment of 50 per cent of the representatives on the controlling bodies of pension funds, even if the trade unions have negotiating rights for only a small proportion of the membership of a scheme.

The Minister asserts that "the vast majority of people in pension schemes are trade unionists". Mr McLeod rightly challenged the Minister to substantiate this statement. Those concerned with pensions know of many instances where schemes include a very high proportion of members who are not collectively represented by trade unions.

An increasing number of companies with occupational pension schemes have provisions for member participation in the management of the funds and the administration of the schemes. These arrangements are not exclusive and do not dis-







# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

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B to  
ne into the  
n, p 19

### Half £1,250m tap relieved sold s market awaits it in MLR

Government's aim of  
back at least ten-  
ty, the sharp fall in yield-  
ing on the gilt-edged  
through the issue of a  
"tap" stock looked  
as if it might be suc-  
cessful.

Bank of England never  
any official disclosure on  
the amount of stock ap-  
proval. It puts a new  
offer, but market esti-  
mated that yesterday's  
applications probably  
in the region of £500m-  
will leave a considerable  
of stock in the Bank's  
with which to regulate  
prices and may well lead  
in the recent surge  
prices of long-dated gilts.  
The same time it is still  
expected that the Bank  
to ease short-term  
y lowering the minimum  
rate from 14 to 13 per  
cent this afternoon. This  
bring the drop to one and  
points since MLR was  
to 15 per cent as a crisis  
last October.

complicated by an easing

in interest rates in the  
inter-bank market, it could also  
lead the clearing banks to consider  
a reduction in their base lend-  
ing rates. These currently  
stand at 14 per cent.

The pressure on the Bank to  
allow interest rates to fall still  
faster, however, remains con-  
siderable, with the authorities  
continuing policy of issuing gov-  
ernment debt at what are con-  
sidered to be over-attractive  
levels, placing a heavy strain on  
the liquidity and of the banking  
and money market system.

Also, two leading gilt brokers  
have questioned the authorities'  
present policy this week.  
In its monthly *Monetary*  
*Bulletin*, W. Greenwell sug-  
gested that holding up interest  
rates and maximizing gilt sales  
were likely to restrain the  
growth in money supply to  
degree that threatened econo-  
mic growth.

In its *Weekly Monitor*,  
Kemp-Gee speaks of the folly  
of the current King Canute  
strategy and says that the strategy  
to hike the slide in interest rates  
is likely to prove "reciprocity  
and misguided".

Financial Editor, page 19

### ares surge farther ahead

id-Mott  
professional investors  
ing to take encourage-  
ment from long-term  
economic data, the equity  
market progress for the sixth  
day.  
77 30-share Index closed  
at 386.3, its best level for  
this and a gain of almost  
15 over the six sessions.  
High small cap trading  
any prices below their

potentially best levels, dealers  
said the demand was more  
widely spread than for several  
days. When the interest wanted  
after lunch, the underlying tone  
strayed firm on the prospect of  
at least a half-point cut in the  
minimum lending rate today.

There was also a feeling that  
many would-be investors stayed  
away from the equity market  
pending the outcome of applica-  
tions for the new long "tap".

### ibudsman critical of T inquiry methods

Financial Staff  
Department of Trade's  
of publishing com-  
pany individuals in its  
on company investiga-  
tions, the inquiry method  
criticized by the Par-  
liamentary Commissioner in a  
report today.

Jwal Pugh, the Com-  
missioner, says that in deciding  
if a firm is a "fit and  
proper person to run a busi-  
ness" the Department cannot  
solely by firm evi-  
dence subject to conclusive

adds, that "if the  
of such power is to be  
to be free of arbit-  
ary administrative  
principles must be

erson whose fitness is  
should be told clearly  
why the Depart-  
ment is considering his  
fit-ness given full and fair  
ity for answering the  
g's comments form

part of his report into the  
Castle Life Assurance case,  
referred to him in 1975 by Mr  
Norman Fowler, Conservative  
MP for Sutton Coldfield and  
Opposition spokesman on  
Transport, who plans to raise  
the question of appeals on DoT  
reports in Parliament.

Castle, a small life office,  
was the first company ordered  
to stop taking new business in  
April, 1974 under section 13 of  
the Insurance Companies  
Act 1962.

Following a DoT investiga-  
tion the insurance company's  
controller was declared "not a  
fit and proper person" by the  
Department. But now the Com-  
missioner has instructed Mr  
Pugh, the Secretary of State for  
Trade, to carry out a fresh re-  
view of the case.

Mr Pugh feels that the Castle  
Investigation was "unsatisfac-  
tory in certain respects", and  
although the case was recon-  
sidered he believes that the  
"reconsideration was itself not  
satisfactory".

Link with NEDC proposed as way to boost authority of Parliament

### Lord Plowden's new industry role for MPs

By Maurice Corio  
Industrial Editor

Lord Plowden, former chair-  
man of Tube Investments, yes-  
terday proposed giving Parlia-  
ment a wider role in its sur-  
veillance of Government-indus-  
try relations by linking the  
National Economic Development  
Council to a new select com-  
mittee of MPs.

He suggested that the au-  
thority of Parliament was being  
undermined by the independent  
power of industry and the trade  
unions. Parliament was ceasing  
to be the effective source of  
power.

Lord Plowden declared: "In  
my opinion, there is a real dan-  
ger that if Governments con-  
tinue to encroach on the pri-  
vate sector and to lay burdens  
on what remains of it, in the  
way that has been done in re-  
cent years, we are not far from

the end of the mixed economy  
as we have known it."  
"It is also my opinion that the  
trade unions are encroaching  
upon the power of Parliament.  
It is a commonplace of politi-  
cal theory that responsibility  
ought to lie where power lies.  
There must be misgivings about  
whether this is the case today."

Delivering the London Busi-  
ness School's Stockton lecture,  
Lord Plowden cited as his  
qualifications a long experience  
as a senior civil servant, his  
posts in the City and in indus-  
try, and chairmanship of various  
public committees of inquiry.

The present economic and  
business situation was domina-  
ted, he said, by the conditioning  
of the electorate to believe that  
Parliament was willing and  
able to look after the mass of  
people without voters having to  
make the necessary effort on

their own behalf, and by the  
conditioning of the trade union  
movement to believe they can  
get their way by threatening to  
stop the industrial machine if  
they do not.

Both of these rested on the  
increase in the productive  
power of industry, but both led  
to a weakening of that power  
itself. The goose that laid the  
golden eggs was being starved.

There were pressures on  
Labour to extend direct owner-  
ship of industry and to regard  
private industry as inefficient,  
not seeing far enough ahead,  
and not investing enough.

Lord Plowden said that the  
forces of profit and loss had been  
seriously weakened. The driving  
forces which separated the in-  
efficient from the efficient had  
weakened in both the private  
and public sectors.

Real misgivings arose not  
about organized labour seeking

to increase its power, but about  
the way in which the power  
was being used. There was a  
negative power, resting on the  
solidarity of labour even when  
other workers might be dam-  
aged. Difficulties were often put  
in the way of increasing produc-  
tivity.

Existing state concerns had to  
be run properly and profitably  
before considering any further  
nationalization.

"As an industrialist and one  
convinced of the need for  
greater participation, I would  
strongly oppose legislation of  
the kind apparently proposed  
by the majority of the Bullock  
Committee which I believe  
would seriously set back the  
movement for greater participa-  
tion which is now gathering  
pace in industry."

Parliament, represented the  
community, but the force lay  
with organized labour. The

problem of how and where to  
reach agreement on saving the  
mixed economy required a  
policy of helping industry and  
commerce, halting more nationa-  
lization, a move to greater  
employee participation, design-  
ing an improved framework for  
settling wages, a community-  
wide monetary policy, and a  
continuing dialogue between  
Government and both sides of  
industry on future develop-  
ments.

Today, the nation had ready  
at hand the NEDC as a forum in  
which Government and indus-  
try could discuss and evolve  
policies which, had the best  
chance of producing wealth for  
the community. If political  
dangers were to be avoided, he  
suggested adding to it a respon-  
sibility to report regularly and  
fully on its deliberations to the  
Select Committee of Parliament.

### Red faces in Italy over jobs for the boys rebuff

Italy's Communist Party is  
making itself unpopular with  
the ruling Christian Democrats  
by insisting that the chairman  
and other senior officials of  
the country's banks be selected  
for their professional merits.

For many years now the  
Government's right to appoint  
top bank officials has been  
treated as the spoils of power,  
to be divided among the ruling  
parties with the Christian  
Democrats having the lion's  
share.

It is a valuable way of  
placing former politicians,  
party officials and political  
protégés but above all ensures  
party control over an important  
part of public life. As Signor  
Armando Sarti, Communist  
deputy, put it, their men at the  
head of the banks allow the  
party "to exercise control of  
the economy and also of inter-  
national policy better than any other  
position".

A number of posts are now  
up for renewal—several have  
been vacant for years partly  
because of the conflict of pres-  
sures between various party  
factions as to who should fill  
them—and the interministerial  
credit committee is to meet on  
January 26 to decide on the  
new appointments.

Since the Communists now  
indirectly support the Govern-  
ment by abstaining in Parlia-  
ment, the Christian Democrats  
clearly thought they were doing  
the right thing, politically, by  
suggesting that they propose  
their own candidates for some  
of the jobs. The assumption was  
that they would then nego-  
tiate as to what jobs went to  
what parties.

They were clearly taken  
aback, therefore when the Com-  
munists replied flatly that they  
had no intention of presenting  
any candidates and demanded  
instead that the appointments  
be made on the basis of profes-  
sional competence.

The atmosphere immediately  
became icy. The Christian  
Democrats are refusing to con-  
sider any change of habits.

The Communists, meanwhile,  
have made clear that if the  
Christian Democrats persist,  
they will insist on debating  
every candidate to ensure they  
have the necessary competence  
and have not been previously  
involved in corruption or other  
disgraceful dealings. Moreover,  
they have threatened to chal-  
lenge the nominations in a parlia-  
mentary debate, recalling that only  
last September the Chamber's  
Finance and Treasury Commis-  
sion issued precise recommenda-  
tions as to how bank executives  
were to be selected in future.

The Communists' attitude has,  
however, been criticised by two  
leading newspapers as in-  
effective. In practical terms,  
they argue, with Italian realism,  
their refusal to submit candi-  
dates means that the Christian  
Democrats will have most of the  
posts for themselves, whereas if  
they submitted qualified candi-  
dates they would at least be  
able to get good men into some  
posts.

Patricia Clough

### Mr Benn meets EEC energy chief

Mr Wedgwood Benn, the Sec-  
retary of State for Energy (left)  
and new head of the European  
Community committee of  
Energy Ministers, held his first  
meeting with Herr Guido  
Brunner, the new energy com-  
missioner, in London yesterday.

Mr Benn has spent most of  
this week visiting his coun-  
terparts in Europe and spreading  
the message that there must be  
more political realism in EEC  
thinking on energy policy.

He was able to tell the new  
commissioner that the opening  
exchanges with the French,  
Dutch, Belgian, Irish and  
Luxembourg ministers had gone  
smoothly. Today he flies to  
Italy for further talks and will  
be meeting the Germans in  
London on Monday.



### Japan Budget plans put emphasis on sharp acceleration of growth

From Peter Hazelhurst  
Tokyo, Jan 20

Taking a substantial step to  
stimulate the world's economy,  
the Japanese government  
announced today that it would  
present Parliament with a draft  
plan for a £37,000m budget  
designed to provide the country  
with a higher growth rate than  
the United States and Western  
Europe during the next fiscal  
year.

In contrast to past policies of  
holding down inflation under a  
moderate rate of growth since  
the oil crisis, the draft plan will  
attempt substantially to in-  
crease public spending in an  
effort to stimulate rapid  
growth again.

The draft Budget for the next  
fiscal year advocates an increase  
of 17 per cent in spending over  
the current budget, and was  
announced after an extra-  
ordinary meeting of the  
Cabinet whittled down pro-  
posed tax cuts, and sub-  
sequently increased appropri-  
ations for public works.

The draft, which is expected  
to touch off a stormy session in  
Parliament, was immediately  
attracted by major opposition  
parties today on the grounds  
that it was primarily designed  
to cater for the interests of big  
business.

Complying with President-  
elect Carter's plea for fiscal  
policies which would pull the  
world out of the current  
economic recession, the Cabinet  
gave approval to the final  
version of its draft Budget this  
morning, increasing spending  
on public works by 21.2 per  
cent to £8,600m as a major  
means of stimulating growth.

Mr Takeo Fukuda, the  
Prime Minister, said later today  
that the draft Budget plan was  
designed to provide Japan with  
an increased growth rate of  
6.7 per cent in real terms  
during the fiscal year. "This  
will exceed the growth rate of  
the United States and major  
European nations. Our policy  
is one of contributing steadily  
to the stable development of  
the world economy in a spirit  
of solidarity through inter-

national cooperation. The  
future development of Japan's  
economy is being watched with  
keen interest by other countries  
and the present budget  
responds to such expectations,  
in and out of the country", Mr  
Fukuda said.

Business leaders, including  
Mr Toshio Doko, the president  
of the Keidanren, the powerful  
federation of economic or-  
ganizations, welcomed the outline  
of the draft plan, but Japan's  
five major opposition parties,  
which virtually control the  
Diet's budgetary committee,  
condemned Mr Fukuda's fiscal  
proposals.

Under the draft plan—which  
provides for a 30 per cent  
deficit in revenue financing—the  
Government has whittled  
down demands for £2,000m in  
tax cuts to £864m. Socialists  
and communists also claimed  
that the plan gave priority to  
large appropriations for public  
works spending, while the out-  
lay for social welfare had in-  
creased by only 17 per cent, a  
reversal of the pattern in recent  
years.

### Call to revise draft on inflation accounting

By Our Financial Staff

A call for the Morpeth ex-  
posure draft on inflation  
accounting to be revised to  
allow certain financial institu-  
tions to make a pre-tax profit  
deduction to cover alteration in  
the value of free capital, was  
made yesterday by Mr F. W.  
Hewitt, director and general  
manager of the National West-  
minster Bank.

Mr Hewitt commented that  
under present proposals "while  
profits of industrial companies  
will be redefined at a stroke  
to about half the historical con-  
vention level, those of banks  
will not change significantly—  
but, alas, we are not immune  
to the effects of inflation".

Speaking to a London con-  
ference organized by the Insti-  
tute of Chartered Accountants  
in England and Wales, he sug-  
gested that each eligible finan-  
cial institution should be re-  
quired "to make above the line  
in arriving at its pre-tax profit  
for the year a mandatory  
deduction of an amount neces-  
sary to compensate for any  
change in the real value of its  
free capital during the account-  
ing period".

The change in the real value  
would be calculated from the  
volume of free capital and the  
change in a deflator during the  
accounting period.

Mr Hewitt suggested that the  
deflator could be a monetary  
aggregate, such as M3, or a  
general deflator, such as the  
gross domestic product deflator.

Meanwhile, an Inland Re-  
venue consultative document on  
the tax treatment of stock  
under CCA proposals will be  
published in about two months' time, Mr Stanley Clouston Davis,  
Under Secretary of State for  
Companies, Aviation and Ship-  
ping, said at the conference.

On government and legal im-  
plications of the proposed  
accounting system, he said that  
there were three main issues  
involved. First, whether any  
amendment of the Companies  
Act would be necessary or  
desirable to permit the intro-  
duction of CCA.

The ultimate decision here,  
said Mr Davis, is likely to be  
determined by the EEC fourth  
directive on company accounts  
which will probably come into  
force in about 1980.

Secondly, there is concern  
about the effect of CCA on  
contractual documents. It had  
been suggested, he said, that  
there should be some statutory  
provision dealing with the in-  
terpretation of contracts entered  
into before the introduction of  
CCA.

The alternative was to leave  
parties to renegotiate.

Finally, there was the ques-  
tion of whether the Companies  
Act should be amended to  
include a statutory definition  
of distributable profits.

### Disruption at Halewood

Fords of Halewood, Liverpool,  
ran into trouble twice yesterday  
and as a result of one dispute,  
1,500 workers in the assembly  
plant will be laid off on today's  
shift. Production: loss will be 500  
cars worth about £1m.

Some 300 men in the press  
shop went home at midday in a  
dispute over the mobility of  
the second dispute arose in  
the body plant when a welder  
was sacked for carving initials  
with a welding torch on a weld-  
ing booth.

### Mitton Butler Priest & Co

In the report of Mitton  
Butler Priest & Co Ltd (in  
liquidation) v Ross and Others  
in the Law Report on Decem-  
ber 22 it was stated that all 17  
defendants had been declared  
defunct by the Stock Ex-  
change. In fact, three de-  
fendants, the 15th, 16th and 17th,  
were expressly stated not to  
have been declared defunct.

Those three defendants were  
Mr A. Kemball-Price, Mr R. F.  
W. Patterson and Mr J. A. M.  
Marr. We regret the error and  
wish to apologize to them.

Patricia Clough

### rysler modifies Iran contract

rd Townsend

Corporation of  
whose United King-  
dom was rescued last  
by British Government  
up to £162m of pub-  
licly agreed to a major  
loan to its contract for  
of British-made cars

ley, Secretary of State  
story, disclosed in the  
yesterday that the  
on had waived the pro-  
its contract with the  
tional Manufacturing  
which limits INM to  
a Chrysler cars only.  
shipments of Chrys-  
lish cars in kit form to  
sar not to be affected,  
in company is now free

to negotiate deals with other  
world manufacturers. The con-  
tract with Chrysler expires in  
1981.

Under the terms of its deal  
with the Government, the Chrys-  
ler Corporation undertook to  
"use its best endeavours" to  
ensure that INM should con-  
tinue to obtain from Chrysler  
UK knocked-down packs and  
parts for assembly into cars.

Mr Varley, answering a Com-  
mons question about the clause,  
said that Chrysler had kept him  
informed of discussions with  
INM directed to improve their  
joint working arrangements and  
safeguarding future volumes of  
supply to 1980 and beyond. The  
provision in the INM contract  
had been waived at the Iranian  
company's request.

He added that Mr Dell, Sec-  
retary of State for Trade, in  
Iran last week for the fifth  
session of the Joint  
Ministerial Economic Com-  
mission, discussed with the Iranian  
Government the relationship be-  
tween the two companies and  
their intentions for develop-  
ments.

"I am satisfied that the  
modification proposed in the  
agreement between the compa-  
nies does not diminish the safe-  
guards for the supply of packs  
and parts from this country,"  
Mr Varley said.

At the time of the Chrysler  
UK rescue, the preserving of  
the Iranian business was con-  
sidered by the Government to  
be of paramount importance.

### In brief

#### BNOC shares in fresh offshore discovery

An oil discovery has been  
made in the British sector of  
the North Sea close to the  
median line with Norwegian  
waters and about two miles  
north of the commercial  
Murchison field.

Conoco, the operator for a  
consortium that includes the  
British National Oil Corpora-  
tion and Gulf Oil, said a well  
on the structure by the rig  
Dundee Kingsnorth had flowed  
5,500 barrels of oil a day from  
"a relatively thin pay zone".

Further drilling will be  
needed to determine whether  
the discovery, about 130 miles  
north east of the Shetlands, will  
be commercially exploitable.  
However, its closeness to the  
Murchison field improves its  
prospects.

Conoco has ordered designs  
for a steel platform for Murchi-  
son but tenders for the struc-  
ture will not be invited until  
later in the year.

holding its annual meeting  
with the 14-nation association  
of West European shipbuilders,  
in Tokyo, to reach an under-  
standing on the condition of  
the industry in Japan and  
Western Europe.

#### New attack on tax plan for working overseas

The Institute of Taxation has  
joined the critics of the Inland  
Revenue's proposed amend-  
ments for the taxation of people  
working abroad. The main  
proposal is that for a period of 30  
continuous days anyone will be  
able to deduct 25 per cent of  
earnings before arriving at his  
chargeable income.

The Institute argues that  
people whose jobs take them  
away for less than 30 days  
deserve the same treatment to  
compensate for the disruption  
and hardship suffered.

#### £21m orders for BSC

A two-man team from the  
British Steel Corporation's  
Sheffield division's works have  
returned from North America  
and Mexico with orders worth  
\$36m (about £21m) and in the  
Scunthorpe division nearly 35  
per cent of output in the first  
quarter of this year will go to  
meet a record export load, with  
orders from Europe, South  
America, the Middle East, the  
near East, and India, worth  
£25m.

#### Redcar sit-in

More than 100 men employed  
by Pipework Engineering Devel-  
opment, a British Steel Cor-  
poration subsidiary, were sitting-in  
at the £1,500m Redcar steel com-  
plex yesterday over a wages  
grievance. There are 3,400  
construction workers on the  
site.

#### Call to shipbuilders

Japan Shipbuilding Associa-  
tion said in Tokyo yesterday  
that it would shortly propose

### the markets moved

The Times index : 162.05 + 2.03  
The FT index : 386.9 + 5.3

#### THE POUND

Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
buys	sells	buys	sells
Australia \$	1.63	1.58	
Austria Sch	30.50	28.50	
Belgium Fr	66.25	63.25	
Canada \$	1.73		
Denmark Mk	10.20	10.10	
Finland Mk	6.75	6.50	
France Fr	8.77	8.45	
Germany Dm	4.30	4.08	
Greece Dr	74.00	70.00	
US \$	8.40	7.95	
Hongkong \$	162.00	154.00	
Italy Lr	520.00	495.00	
Japan Yen	4.30	4.28	
Netherlands Gld	9.29	9.03	
Norway Kr	59.50	56.00	
Portugal Esc	2.13	1.98	
S Africa Rd	121.75	113.50	
Spain Pes	7.57	7.22	
Sweden Kr	4.46	4.24	
Switzerland Fr	1.75	1.71	
US \$	84.75	82.50	

Notes for small denominated bank notes  
only, at supplier's discretion, by Barclays  
Bank International Ltd. Directors' rates  
apply to travellers' cheques and other  
foreign currency business.

SDR-\$ was 1.15425 on Wednesday,  
while SDR-£ was 0.571740.  
Commodities: Reuters' index  
closed yesterday at a fresh peak  
of 1,610.4 (previously 1,605.8).  
Reports, pages 21 and 22

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

# Pacing the fall of interest rates

of England was again... that it did not want rates to fall too fast, a that the markets are increasingly difficult to... Why, it is should rates not be to fall more quickly? would it restore confidence, but would also the rush of foreign funds which is helping up precisely those sterling balances that are anxious to



Mr John Lyle, chairman of Tate & Lyle; benefits to come from a wider earnings base

## Dunford/J & FB Crucial sums

Dunford & Elliott has received 86 per cent acceptances for its £3m issue of convertible preference stock, which could be good news for Johnson & Firth Brown. Institutional shareholders of Dunford agreed to take up 43 per cent of the new issue; J & FB bought 15 per cent of the stock in full form and has clearly taken up its entitlement. The remaining 28 per cent, and a number of the institutions must now be looking to the premium available on acceptance of J & FB's offer. Accepting shareholders can now get 15p in J & FB shares for their £1 currency, J & FB's shares having risen to 55p yesterday. And what little of the new stock has found its way into the market (selling at 116p last night) offers a rapid 35 per cent gain if J & FB's bid is successful. If J & FB can pick up most of the convertible issue the arithmetic of the takeover will swing significantly in its favour. The stock represents 45 per cent of Dunford's fully diluted equity and carries voting rights in that proportion whether converted or not. If it can add a large part of this issue to its existing stake—11 per cent acceptances from security shareholders so far and 14 per cent bought in the market—J & FB will be in sight of control.

## Tate & Lyle A more sedate tempo

The tug-of-war between Tate & Lyle's scorpions still nervous about the presumed preponderance of sugar trading profits in the commodity handling division and those content to look no further than their nose at the group's impressive five years' earnings record moved in the latter's favour after yesterday's fall in figures. True, Tate is moving at a snail's pace to allay those fears about the composition of its profits. Nevertheless, after last year's dull conditions in the sugar market (which meant a marginal rise in turnover to £1,344m) the £5m rise in pre-tax profit to £52.5m was respectable enough even if it did not satisfy some of the wider outside estimates. Coupled with the group's recovery from the current year, however, the shares recouped all their initial 10p fall to close unchanged at 270p. Even so, there are still a couple of blurred areas in the picture. One is whether the commodity handling side will run into more volatility. Certainly, in 1975-76—though Unilever chipped in an extra £2m or so, road transport im-

proved on the previous year's loss and there was some bonus from coffee trading—it looks as though sugar trading moved ahead to offset lower profits from molasses to leave the percentage contribution from commodity handling unchanged. The other issue is what attitude the market will take to Tate's decision not to provide for deferred tax any more, which has cut the tax charge to only 32 per cent, since on a normal tax charge the historic p/e ratio of 41 would rise a couple of points. Meanwhile, there are no surprises in the profits breakdown. The contribution from raw sugar production was sharply lower at £900,000 due to the Belize drought and nationalization of its sugar interests in the West Indies which has also meant a £6.2m below the line extraordinary item. Shipping, too, has picked itself up off the floor, helped by the deal with P & O, though at £1.9m its contribution is a long way short of the £13.3m earned in the palm days of two years ago.

Current year profits will be boosted by a maiden contribution from Masdar & Cartwright, worth around £5m net of financing charges but assuming nothing untoward on sugar trading this year's profits are unlikely to move much above the £6.5m level. Even so, a 31 per cent yield provides a reasonable base for the shares in the present market. Final: 1975-76 (1974-75) Capitalization £147m Sales £1,344m (£1,274m) Pre-tax profits £52.5m (£47.5m) Earnings per share 59.9p Dividend gross 18.2p (16.5p)

## Gestetner Margins under pressure

Gestetner's 34 per cent profits improvement matched most expectations. But that is partly due to a write-back above the line of £1.55m from an over-inflated bad debt reserve. Discounting this and the absence of non-recurring losses which amounted to £531,000 last time, profits growth is pretty much in line with the 23 per cent improvement recorded at the sales level. All of which leaves Gestetner's growth tag looking slightly ragged yesterday and the shares fell against the trend by 10p to 235p. With trading margins coming under severe pressure mainly as a result of price controls in many countries, and the prospects of sterling eliminating foreign exchange benefits, the group would seem extremely hard put to even match this performance next time.

At the same time there is a view that Gestetner's strong hold on the cheaper end of the office equipment market may be more difficult to maintain, particularly in overseas markets which account for some four-fifths of total business. In the United States, particularly, the arrival of Xerox's 9200 duplicator at the sophisticated end of the range is expected to result in a further loss of market share to the group's main rivals A. B. Dick and Addressograph. Gestetner's recovery ground previously surrendered to Xerox at the lower end.

Meanwhile, Gestetner's cash balances have improved £13m to £34m, but borrowings have also risen by £5m to a similar figure and stocks and debtors have risen £8m and £18m respectively. Now selling on a p/e ratio of just under seven the shares are more in line with the market average, but precious little support is provided by a yield of only 3.4 per cent. Despite the group's management record and marketing reputation the rating could be under pressure, although under CCA it fares reasonably well: earnings would be 30 per cent lower. Final: 1975-76 (1974-75) Capitalization £89m Sales £233m (£189m) Pre-tax profits £26m (£19m) Earnings per share 27p (21.5p) Dividend gross 5.44p (4.95p)

# Time for the NEB to come into the open

Michael Grylls

Today, for the first time, the House of Commons is to have the opportunity to debate the National Enterprise Board. Not to be noted, in government time, but on a Friday when most of us are in our constituencies. Last week Maurice Corina wrote in *Business News* about the Prime Minister taking on overall charge of industrial strategy. The NEB under its chairman, Lord Ryder, is one leg of this strategy. (Another is the National Economic Development Office's useful Sector Working Parties.) Lord Ryder's expanding "empire" has been particularly favoured by the Cabinet. Schools, hospitals and the armed forces all fell before the Chancellor's pre-Christmas axe, whereas the NEB was given an extra £100m of taxpayers' money to spend. Why? The National Enterprise Board, born when Mr Wedgwood Benn was Secretary of State for Industry, is popular with the left wing of the Parliamentary Labour Party, so perhaps the £100m was a sop to them. No explanation was given to Parliament so we can but guess.

One good shareholding Lord Ryder had willed on him was the 50 per cent stake in Ferranti, costing the NEB £8.5m. There should be a good profit there and I believe Lord Ryder should soon consider selling it and so lessen the NEB's demand for taxpayers' money. Section 2 (4) of the Industry Act, 1975, gives the National Enterprise Board power to dispose of shares. Some industrialists will have been surprised to see that Mr Clive Sinclair of Sinclair Radionics fetch up in Grosvenor Gardens. (His recent achievement in developing a mini television set has been much publicized.) Sinclair has already had a grant from the National Research Development Corporation. He then sold the NEB 43 per cent of his company. Why? Was there no City institution willing to back him? Is a mini-television so speculative? None of us knows the answer. But, if we taxpayers are to

have Lord Ryder making decisions on our behalf with our money, MPs must surely be given the facts and figures. One of Parliament's complaints is that the public are involuntary and disenfranchised shareholders in the NEB. Mr Edward du Cann's Public Accounts Committee recently called for proper accountability from it. In a recent debate in Parliament, Mr du Cann and I both pressed for effective ways for members to monitor the NEB. In fact, I believe the Government's treatment of Parliament over the board has been scandalous. The Industry Act 1975 put a duty on the Secretary of State to publish Guidelines for the NEB. Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, did produce draft Guidelines in March, 1976, but no opportunity was given to MPs to debate this draft. Apparently we are not to be encouraged to express a view! Then, surprise, surprise, on December 23 last year (just as

the House was rising for Christmas) the Secretary of State shipped the final definitive Guidelines into the Library of the House. The first I saw of them was a report in *The Times* on December 24. What a way to run a government body with over £1,000m to spend! The NEB, in the Government's Draft Guidelines of March, 1976, was required to ensure "the full involvement of employees in decision making at all levels". This, in turn, was a watering down of Mr Wedgwood Benn's earlier directive that "there should be workers' democracy at all levels". Now the official Guidelines tell the NEB that "it shall make appropriate arrangements with their subsidiaries to ensure that management is playing its part in furthering government policies in this field". A more sensible and realistic directive and, happily, a far cry from Mr Benn's earlier strident demand. The Guidelines are not just unimportant do's and don'ts.

For example, they allow Lord Ryder and his team to spend up to £10m on any project without any reference to the minister, or up to £25m simply by telling the minister that they are going to. So, even if the Public Accounts Committee does get to grips with the NEB, it will be after the event—probably long after. Last September the board published its six-monthly report. The figures were not encouraging. Excess of expenditure over income was £894,000; of the expenses £536,000 were administrative and £414,000 were attributable to the "organizing committee" prior to the formation of the board—an expensive holding company and one asks for what purpose, except to insert one more bureaucratic layer between state-owned companies such as Leyland, Ferranti and Rolls-Royce, and the Government. The interim reports mention that "the NEB had agreed to make loans of £5.6m to a number of companies". To whom? Neither Lord Ryder nor the minister seems keen to tell us. A company in the private sector would, quite rightly, be criticised for such secretiveness. As I said in the House on December 9, "In Sweden, for example, the *Statsforetag* (the Swedish NEB) publishes in detailed terms its resources, results, yield and total capital employed. Details have actually been published by *The Economist* in this country, so it is evident they do not mind telling people what is going on."

Compare that to the NEB. Today, what do we know—one year after it was born—about its capital structure or its yield on capital? Employed? Apparently not. Lord Ryder would do well to remember that he now has more shareholders than when he was chairman of the Reed Group. All 20 million taxpayers are involuntary shareholders and MPs should be able to act as guardians of the shareholders' interests. The major is MP for North West Surrey and vice-chairman of the Conservative Industry Committee.

NEB SHAREHOLDINGS						
Company	Type of share	Number held by NEB	% held of nominal value of total equity	Cost	Stock Exchange closing price per share on 14.1.77	
Agemaspark Ltd	£1 ordinary	3,700	30%	£100,000	not traded	
	£1 redeemable preference	50,000		£50,000	not traded	
Anglo-Venezuelan Railway Corporation	£1 ordinary	3,500	35%	£3,500	not traded	
Brown Boveri Kent Ltd	25p ordinary	7,658,938	17.8%	£1,880,160	25p	
Cambridge Instrument Co Ltd	10p ordinary voting	4,261,757			not traded	
	1p ordinary non-voting	87,584,255	44.5%	£1,770,339	not traded	
	1p ordinary non-voting	50,000,000		£500,000	not traded	
British Leyland Ltd	50p ordinary	246,490,883	95.1%	£246,490,883	26p	
Data Recording Instrument Co Ltd	£1 ordinary	2,400,000	53.9%	£2,400,000	not traded	
Dunford & Elliott Ltd	25p ordinary	271,351	2.6%	£122,111	51p	
Ferranti Ltd	50p ordinary voting	4,000,000		£8,000,000	not traded	
	50p ordinary non-voting	2,668,868	62.5%	£2,668,868	not traded	
Herbert Ltd	25p ordinary	43,632,948	100%	£28,186,114	not traded	
International Computers (Holdings) Ltd	£1 ordinary	8,146,750	24.4%	£12,082,598	151p	
Read & Smith Holdings Ltd	50p ordinary	2,400,000	29.8%	£792,000	24p	
Rolls Royce (1971) Ltd	£1 ordinary	175,000,000	100%	£175,000,000	not traded	
Sinclair Radionics Ltd	£1 ordinary	75,000	42.9%	£240,000	not traded	
	£1 redeemable preference	200,000		£200,000	not traded	
Twinlock Ltd	10p ordinary	7,123,000	33.3%	£297,000	not traded	

Source: Department of Industry

# Computers: the problems of security still to be resolved

Kenneth Owen Technology Correspondent

Computer security and computer privacy have become rather mixed up over the past year, as the proposed privacy legislation has been debated to the sound of many axes being firmly ground. But last week's theft of tapes from an ICI computer centre in The Netherlands has served as a reminder that security *per se* is important, whatever degree of privacy is attached to the information being held or processed. In one sense security is the reverse side of the privacy coin: when privacy considerations have determined what information should be kept secret, and from whom, security considerations will decide how that privacy can be attained. But, in addition, such is the dependence on computer systems of almost every organization in the country that, even there were no need to keep the processed data secret from anyone, there would still be need to try to ensure that the data and the equipment are not stolen, broken, burnt, blown up or otherwise interfered with. Computer-using organizations are faces with four factors which may cause them to rethink their security procedures, the National Computing Centre points out. The computer can give easier, faster access to large, centralized files; it enables files as one entity to be integrated from another; it introduces some unique security problems, but it also can provide more extensive safeguards. Overall, compared with a manual system, a well-designed and well-implemented computer system should be "safer" in

that the probability of loss is less. But the loss, if it does occur, may be large. Disruption to computer systems can be accidental or deliberate, and surveys in both Britain and the United States have indicated that accidental causes predominate. Programming errors, machine breakdowns and power and air-conditioning problems are at the top of the list in one NCC survey. At the other end, very few cases of fire, flood, malicious damage, theft, fraud or unauthorized use were reported. In a 1975 analysis by Stanford Research Institute in the United States, 362 cases of the abuse of computer systems were examined. It showed particular vulnerability in the manual handling of computer input and output, physical access to the computer installation, weaknesses in computer and terminal operation; and "failure of business ethics". At the bottom of the SRI list were the failure to prevent or detect impersonation of a time-sharing user (with remote access to the computer); and weak control in the magnetic tape library. In the complex business of risk management of security engineering for computer systems some of the precautions are general ones, while others are tailored to the complexities of computing. Most organizations take such basic precautions as putting the computer centre where it is least vulnerable, providing standby power supplies and carefully controlling access to the computer room, the data reception area and the tape-disc

library. Passes or badges for staff, identification checks for visitors, and key or magnetic-card entry to the computer room are the norm. Programs and data files held on magnetic tape are duplicated or triplicated (this triple arrangement is known quaintly control—monitoring exactly what is taking place and ensuring that only the right people have access to particular files and programs. Most multi-access computer systems will have been designed with security aspects in mind, so that, for example, unauthorized access is not possible and, if attempted, is recorded. But, as the computer will only do exactly what it is told to do, it is possible for an authorized but unfriendly insider to write or change a programme to suit his or her own ends. Hence the importance, in computing as in any other critical area of an organization's work of staff selection and morale. Certainly some companies take the preliminary "vetting" of computer staff very seriously indeed. Some of the more spectacular computer frauds are now well known; there are doubtless many other cases which have not been allowed to become known outside the company concerned. After last week's ICI tape theft Mr Ray Ellison, of the National Computing Centre, drew four broad lessons for managers: computerized information is easier to steal because it is held in concentrated form; authorization for sensitive areas should be withdrawn if an employee is under notice to leave; one person should not have authorized access to multiple copies of programmes or

sensitive data; and security should be tightened for week-end and night working. For computer bureaux, handling the confidential data for hundreds of clients, good security is clearly a basic requirement. Under new security procedures introduced this month by Comshare, a London bureau, no printout or magnetic media will be handled over without proof of identity; and storage facilities for magnetic tape cassettes are fire-proof safe at the computer centre, a locked store outside the centre, safe deposit boxes at a local bank and, for long periods, bomb-proof storage by the Datakeep organization. Mr Joe Kenny, chairman of the privacy committee of the British Computer Society, believes that the ICI case has illustrated the importance of computer techniques in society generally and in large companies in particular. The security problem is a two-fold one, he points out—first, to try to guard against a loss or other security failure and secondly, to have some plan which enables the organization to recover if the first-level security breaks down. Mr Kenny believes that the real value of data is not generally appreciated. Apart from the actual content of the computer tape, there is the information which can be deduced by correlation with other sources.

## Business Diary: Wings over CEI • Hand across the sea

everybody from the sister down is insisting on the spot-Cinderella of industry, engineering, it quite a year for Siringle, who yesterday Tony Dummer as of the Council of Institutions (CEI). les, who retired as an last year, has joined a (1971) and is a non-director of Hunting Royal Air Force Sir came Controller of g and Supply. ie umbrella organiza- e professional bodies top-drawer chartered

demands grew for the Government to set up a public inquiry into the profession. The word in Whitehall yesterday was that Jim Callaghan has been discussing a possible inquiry with Eric Varley, the Secretary of State for Industry, who has been keeping an eye on the situation since the bitter months of the Wilson administration. Varley, in turn, is talking over education, science and employment aspects with his respective opposite numbers, Shirley Williams and Albert Booth, and may decide on some form of public inquiry by the end of this month.

Varley is reported to be largely in favour, but there are some anxieties among his advisers that an inquiry, which might take up to two years to complete, would only delay change. An inter-departmental study is already going on into industrial management, particularly in engineering, and the British Association for the Advancement of Science is due to complete by July an investigation for the Government into the profession in relation to manufacturing performance. Among the voices raised for an inquiry is that of John Lyle, general secretary of the Electrical Power Engineers Association, now trying to recruit the many professional engineers who have stayed out-

side the trade union movement. He does not believe that an inquiry would necessarily delay changes suggested by the present investigations and his view is that only the muscle of a committee will be enough to persuade the traditionalists to shift their ground. Sir Charles is expected to follow previous CEI thinking, questioning the value of an inquiry that is only the opposite. His vice-chairman is Sir John Arwell, former chairman of the Weir Group's engineering division.

Autograph Lord Ponsonby, chairman of the Greater London Council, could be in for a bad bout of writer's cramp this year after his appearance at receptions in London and Washington in the past week. It isn't that he will be writing to apologize for any outbursts of extreme high spirits, although the parties were convivial enough. The peer is also chairman of the London Tourist Board and a member of the executive of an associate body, the London Convention Bureau. It was in these latter capacities that he was on hand at the receptions, one for chief executives of American professional associations at the British Embassy last week and the other a Guild dinner this week for a

thousand members of the United States Association of Trial Lawyers, who have been holding their annual convention in London. Lord Ponsonby offered at the gathering a personal letter to endorse any certificate of attendance that would help the Ameri-



Lord Ponsonby.

can convention visitor in London to set his or her expenses against income tax. Since January 1 legislation limits the number of tax deductible overseas conventions that Americans can have to two a year. Claimants must show that the convention spent four hours a day in session and the amount deductible is restricted to 552 a day, less than many business people would spend. A big test of the peer's penmanship could take place at the end of October, when about

6,000 members of a women's barbershop quartet singing association, the Sweet Adelines, take over the Albert Hall. Ann Gooch, president of the Adelines, was at the British Embassy reception when Lord Ponsonby first made his offer, and even if they don't all rush to get the autograph of a real live British lord, another 6,000 assorted American convention visitors are expected during 1977.

When last heard of, the peer and convention bureau chief executive Geoffrey Smith were in conference, wondering whether to go the whole hog and produce a standard endorsement on a fancy scroll.

Unions, too When Ken Edis went to Carlton Industries four years ago to reorganize and rationalize the holding company's many pension schemes into Carlton Industries group pensions fund, he little realized that his creation would become his future backer. United Pension Services, launched yesterday, is a new idea and represents the Carlton pension fund's investment in the pensions industry. Rather than lose Edis once his stint was finished, it was decided to capitalize upon both his experience and the low overheads by forming a specialist pensions consultancy.

It is very much designed for the smaller company which has hitherto had "little option other than to go for an insured scheme or self-administered scheme". Ansbacher Investment Management, which would not mind a slice of the action if the chance occurred, will provide investment management. Before he went to Carlton, Edis was the pension scheme controller with Allied Breweries pension fund. He does not intend to limit his pension horizons to managers only, but is very keen on acquiring trade union clients who need advice in their negotiations. Technical consultant to the new company is Terry Arthur, an ex-Welsh rugby international, he is the author of an irreverent book on politics called 95 per cent is crap, as well as being an independent consulting actuary. Jargon department: Biscat, a new international organization set up by scientific research bodies in six European countries, is looking for computer personnel. The official language of the organization is English and its purpose is to "study the current atmosphere by means of the incoherent scatter technique". Presumably if you understand what that means you get the job.

### HOLLIS BROS. & E.S.A. LIMITED.

INTERIM STATEMENT—FOR THE HALF-YEAR  
30th SEPTEMBER 1976  
(Unaudited)

	6 months to 30.9.76	6 months to 30.9.75
Turnover	£900	£900
	19,990	15,724
Trading Profit	1,482	1,100
Interest	375	413
Group Profit Before Tax	1,107	687
Less Estimated Corporation Tax	575	357
Group Profit After Tax	532	330
Less Preference Dividend paid	2	2
	530	328

The increase in turnover and profit reflects greater activity in the timber divisions of the Group. Stocks are balanced to current and foreseeable trading requirements. The present financial situation of the country has led to reduced expenditure in the educational field and adequate measures have been taken to meet the changed conditions which the Chancellor's policy imposed. Our export potential continues to develop and this with the continuing policy of diversification leads our Directors to believe that the full year's trading will compare favourably with 1975/1976.

The Directors have declared an Interim Dividend of 4.225% net on each 25p Ordinary Share equivalent with deemed Advance Corporation Tax to 6.5% (5.9%) gross. You will observe the Interim is increased and it is anticipated that the maximum dividend permitted will be recommended as the final dividend.

Payment will absorb £93,057 (net) and will be made on 28th February, 1977, to shareholders whose names are on the Register at the close of business on 4th February, 1977.

By Order of the Board  
J. S. DOWZALL  
Group Secretary.



## Courtaulds offshoot in Japan ship paint deal

Technical and commercial agreement for the joint worldwide supply of marine paint has been reached after three years of negotiations by International Paint, a Courtaulds subsidiary, and Nippon Paint in Japan.

The agreement, effective from May 1, involves joining Nippon's marine operations in Japan with International's operations throughout the world, as well as the integration of the companies' marine paint technology.

The deal, initiated by International, reflects Japan's position as the world's dominant shipbuilder and as a major dry docking location. The country's paint industry has, however, limited international service.

A major objective will be to develop a fully integrated range of products. International said that Japanese shipowners could expect particular benefits as their vessels increasingly traded and drydocked outside Japan.

International is the largest marine paint supplier in the world, with sales in the year to March, 1976, of £166m, of which a third was marine paint. Nippon's sales last year totalled £122m.

## Aided projects to save £500m annually on balance of payments

By Edward Townsend

Projects granted assistance under the Government's 15-month accelerated scheme will lead to an annual saving on the balance of payments of about £500m by 1980, according to today's issue of *Trade and Industry* magazine.

Reviewing the impact of the scheme, which ended last July, it adds that the projects will generate orders worth more than £400m for Britain's construction industry and plant and equipment manufacturers. Half of these orders have already been placed.

When the scheme closed, 350 applications had been received and the Department of Industry had made offers worth £84m on 120 projects which will bring forward investment totalling £640m. Three loans totalling £6m were granted and the remainder was in the form of interest relief grants.

It is estimated that when the projects come on stream they will create 12,800 new jobs, the

bulk of them in non-assisted areas.

More than a third of the projects are in sectors like diesel engines, electric motors, pistons and bearings, identified as potential bottlenecks by the industrial strategy sector working parties. More than half the project costs are in the petroleum and chemicals industries, with the vehicles and component sectors accounting for £67m.

Giving examples of companies taking advantage of the scheme, now replaced by the new £100m selective investment scheme, *Trade and Industry* names Perbow which is to use a £75,000 interest relief grant to build an 84,000 sq ft factory in Kent for the assembly, test and despatch of large and jumbo range of generating sets which could lead to additional exports worth at least £15m a year.

Others are BTP Tioxide, which has received a £225m relief grant to double the capacity of its titanium pigments plant at Hartlepool, and Josiah Wedgwood which is undertaking major developments at Stoke on Trent creating 1,000 new jobs by 1979-80.

## Patents news

### Books that can talk to the reader

In recent British Patent BPI 450 275, an American firm, Education Engineering Associates, describes an educational aid that looks like a book but also talks to the reader.

Each page of the book carries drawings or photographs with descriptive words. For instance, in a basic primer, a picture of a dog is accompanied by the word "dog".

But, additionally, there is imprinted over the picture a plastic impression of a spiral groove. In this way one or more miniature gramophone records are formed as integral parts of the page.

The reader has a hand-held gadget which incorporates a miniature motor and rotatable wheel, rather like a small gramophone turntable.

This "turntable" carries a tiny gramophone pickup which rotates with it and can track the stationary spiral groove of the records on the book page.

The pickup is connected to a small amplifier and loud-speaker, all of which are under the control of a small finger switch in the hand-held gadget.

A pupil simply looks at the picture, reads the word, and presses the hand-held gadget against the spiral groove on the page. He then hears an audible message, for instance, correct pronunciation of the written word, in one or more languages.

A particularly interesting suggestion is that the written information can be in Braille, to aid the teaching of blind students.

For January 1, printed copies of British Patents rose to 95p regardless of length. The flat-rate pricing policy, which was last examined in 1969, means that even half-page patents (such as recent BP 1 451 828 for a novel form of car tyre pump) costs the same to buy as a highly technical treatise (such as IBM patent number 1 108 800, which stretches to four mammoth volumes).

It follows that the general public, which is more likely to be interested in a patent than a computer, is inevitably subsidising the dissemination of printed patent literature to industry which has greater need of the specialised tomes.

So far the British Library has refused to make photocopies of the printed British patents on demand at a charge rate, but is currently considering this policy in the light of the recent increases in Patent Office charges.

Adrian Hope

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### Hillards runs twice as fast

Supporters of Hillards, the Cleckheaton supermarkets group, must hope that chairman Mr Gordon Hunter and his colleagues will not make earning money sound too easy.

In the 28 weeks to November 13 pre-tax profits were a cool £1,011,874. In the year to May 1, last, they were £1,066,399; and in the 28 weeks to November 1975, they were only £501,571.

The gains in turnover are striking, but less so than in profits. In the latest 28 weeks Hillards made sales of £34.4m against £26.7m a year earlier. In the year to May 1 turnover was £54.98m.

The group's success, apart from winning business, has been in widening margins. In terms of sales pre-tax profits rose from 3.1 per cent to 2.9 per cent a year ago to 3.1 per cent.

One reason was Hillards' entry into lines outside foods where margins can be twice as good. Non-food sales are now a tenth of the total.

Another was the takeover of four old Brierley supermarkets from the Official Receiver. These have been integrated to some purpose.

Seriously, the chairman reports: "the anticipated increases in turnover and profits have been achieved. Since the end of the half year, sales have continued to be buoyant. This is thought to mean that both sales and profits are still rising fast."

So even though the interim dividend is 1p net or 1.54p gross again, the shares hardened yesterday.

**W of England keeps some Linfood**

Gateway Securities has been told that part of the 29.5 per cent stake bought by Linfood Holdings as a springboard for its agreed £7.5m bid, came from West of England Trust and its subsidiaries.

West of England sold 2,000 preference shares, 132,000 ordinary shares and 1.65m "A" ordinary. It is still interested in 144,000 ordinary shares, so it now has 15.7 per cent of the voting rights in Gateway.

**TACE rebounds but dividend passed**

Having omitted an interim dividend, Tace, the former Transport & Chemical Engineering, now passes the final dividend too. Last time Tace paid a total of 1.22p gross.

However, it has recovered from an interim setback when profits fell from £163,000 to £95,000. It finished the year to September 30 with pre-tax profits slightly ahead at £362,000 compared with £337,000. Turnover climbed from £9.15m to £10.4m. But tax rose from £182,000 to £209,000,

so net profits fell from £155,000 to £153,000. Earnings a share were 2.4p against 2.7p.

The rebound in the second half is expected to continue in the current year, the board says. Payment of a dividend will be reviewed at half-time on March 31. This will depend on results and any progress in the counter-claim against the vendors of the Dutch companies.

### Lloyd's brokers bought by Lep

Lep Group has broadened its insurance activities with the acquisition of S. H. Cannon. Cannon is an incorporated insurance broker and broker at Lloyd's. The amount involved in the deal is not disclosed.

The new relationship with Lloyd's through Cannon is seen by Lep, with its world-wide interests in international freight forwarding and allied services, as a natural extension of its present connexion with Lloyd's in the safe movement of cargo and transportation.

It will also provide the group's existing insurance brokers, with access to Lloyd's. Cannon will continue to operate as a separate company within the group. Mr Brian Leeper, chairman of Lep Insurance Brokers, joins the Cannon board as chairman. Mr Michael Morrison, managing director of LTB, joins Mr Gordon Ayerst, the present managing director, as joint managing director.

### Bullough takes off to top first-time £2m

Accelerating in the second half, engineering group Bullough topped £2m for the first time in the year to end-October. Some 35 per cent, up to £832,000 after six months, the full year saw a 75 per cent jump to a record £2.15m pre-tax. Turnover in the year rose from £13.5m to £22.1m. Farnings a share came out at 17.2p compared with 11.8p. Its total payment is raised from 7.01p gross to 7.71p.

Capital spending was over £1m in 1975-76 and a similar rate is likely in the present year. Short-term borrowings at year-end were low, the board says, and adequate borrowing facilities are available for the current year. Though not looking to as big a push as last year, profits should again show strong growth.

### A. & J. Gelfer ahead

Inching ahead is better than not moving at all. On a turnover slightly up from £1.37m to £1.38m, the pre-tax profits of A. & J. Gelfer advanced from £250,000 to £254,000 in the half year to September 30.

But earnings a share of this maker of ties, men's headwear

and scarves eased from 2.38p to 1.95p. The dividend rises from 0.53p adjusted for a scrip issue to 1.72p gross.

Over the whole of last year profits rose from £695,000 to a record £822,000.

### Currency gains help A. J. Mills

Despite a rise in turnover from £51m to £53.5m, the pre-tax profits of A. J. Mills (Holdings) the food importer and distributor fell 13 per cent to £679,000 in the year to October 30.

But after adding £87,000 of credits from currency translations, compared with a debit of £150,500 from the disposal of quoted investments, a ware-house and the writing-off of goodwill, profits after tax, and extraordinary items went up from £179,000 to £402,500.

Earnings a share without the items slipped from 9.4p to 9p though the dividend rises from 3.8p gross to 4.2p.

### Late rally at White Child & Beney

Record sales of £12.2m against £9.97m, have brought an 8 per cent advance in pre-tax profits at White Child & Beney to £1m for the year to September 26. This reflects a good recovery in the second half by this plastics and container group. Earnings a share are 8.44p against 6.41p. The dividend goes up from 4.1p to 4.5p gross.

### Denbyware poorly

Poor figures from Denbyware were looming after the chairman's September warning and in the six months to September 30 sales rose by only 7 per cent to £4.38m while pre-tax profits fell from £320,000 to £406,000. Nor will the full year be as good as 1975-76. But the worst is over, and the interim dividend stays at 3.25p a share gross.

Starting up an export drive and the slide in the pound against the dollar hurting imports of United States furniture were largely to blame.

### Hallite moves well

Maker of synthetic rubber and plastic precision seals, Hallite Holdings boosted pre-tax profits in the half year to November 13 from £200,000 to £285,000. Turnover climbed from £1.92m to £2.34m. Up went net profits from £96,000 to £138,000 and earnings a share from 4.2p to 6.1p. The interim dividend rises too, from 1.75p to 1.92p.

For the year the board looks to much better pre-tax profits than the £363,000 for 1975-76. Included in results for the first time is the group's new United States subsidiary. Its performance so far has been better than expected.

## Quadruple LAFCO to beat work trade gain

By Richard Allen

London American Corporation, the financial and commercial group in which Midland has the controlling stake, pushed pre-tax profits £2.64m in the year to September 30.

This compares with £1.1m for the previous year after a £1.1m bad debt provision. Turnover for the year was £211m compared with £112m in nine months.

Pointing out that quadrupled turnover at fits in the past four years, Hugh Weeks, chairman yesterday: "We confide that the trend in 1977."

Midland Bank bought per cent stake in the group in 1975. That was after Bank International, which held 40 per cent, had required by the United Federal Reserve Board to reduce its stake in LAFCO to 10 per cent.

The group specializes in capital goods and equipment, particularly agricultural machinery.

It undertakes business in more than 100 countries. Of the £211m turnover, £81m related to Kingdom exports with balance covering external sales subsidiaries in New Toronto, Lausanne, Vienne, Hamburg. Since the year a new export house is established in Paris.

In his statement, Sir says that the economic expected in the latter 1976 and in 1977 now seem doubtful, but LAFCO's should be increasingly in times of financial stress.

### Warner Est ahead

Warner Estate Holding, out of the year to Sept 30 with pre-tax profit £724,000 against £887,000 the previous 18 months, annual £590,000. The year was £4.6m for the longer period. Earnings a share on the comparison were 4p 4.1p and the total dividend 3.66p gross against 5p 3.35p gross (annualized). The results include LAFCO Holdings for 12 months.

## Business appointments

### Deputy chairman for Legal & General

Lord Caldecote has been elected deputy chairman of Legal and General Assurance. He is chairman of Delta Metal and a director of Lloyds Bank and Consolidated Gold Fields.

Mr J. F. K. Hinde, head of legal division, London and Mr K. A. V. Marshall, group co-ordinator, have been made directors of Shell International Petroleum.

Mr Harold Keating becomes chairman of the British Gas Corporation's West Midlands region from April 1. He succeeds Mr David Beavis, who is retiring.

Mr T. C. G. Macle has been made a director of Barclays Bank (London and International). He remains the Registrar of Barclays Bank Limited.

Mr R. R. McCay, chairman and managing director of Ogden's has joined the board of Imperial Tobacco.

Mr John McQuestion has joined the board of Transocean Services. The following changes have been announced by House of Fraser: Mr K. T. Marley, who is retiring from executive office in the group and as a director of Cheshams, becomes non-executive chairman of Blinn and of House of Fraser (Northern Management), of which boards he is appointed a director. Mr Winston Brimscombe, who has retired as an executive with the Diggle Group, and resigned from the board of E. Diggle, becomes non-executive chairman of Army & Navy Stores, Cheshams and Howard & Truogha. Mr A. P. Humphries is appointed non-



Mr H. T. Holland (left), Eaton's new financial director, Europe and Lord Caldecote, who has been made deputy chairman of Legal and General.

executive chairman of E. Diggle. All these appointments are from February 1.

Sir Keith Skinner has been appointed chairman of Industrial and Trade Rotor Holdings in succession to Lord Drogheda, who remains on the board. Mr A. V. Hare, chief executive of Financial Times Limited, becomes deputy chairman.

Mr Henry T. Holland has become financial director, Europe, for Eaton Corporation, succeeding Mr John M. Carmon who is transferring to Eaton's headquarters in Cleveland, Ohio. Mr H. K. Cutham has been made executive director, Europe. Mr C. J. Pittard, managing director of the Pittard Group, is to become chairman in succession to Mr D. W. Pittard, who has been appointed president. Mr

N. F. Wood has been made managing director, but remains group financial director.

Mr A. S. W. Boshall joins the board of the corporation in America. Mr R. Thompson has succeeded him as managing director of Diversy Limited.

Mr William Knox and Mr Eric Steele become directors of Diversy (Ireland).

Dr Martin Jones has been made a director of New Electronic Holdings.

Mr J. R. Dymond has become chairman of the plastic division of Mander Packaging International, following the retirement of Mr W. A. Laurie.

Mr M. A. S. G. Stewart and Mr C. G. W. Jones have been appointed to the board of Strongwork Diving (International).

Mr R. L. Pullen, managing director of KDC Instruments, has taken over as president of Scientific Instrument Manufacturers' Association of Great Britain, succeeding Mrs Mary Griffin, of Smith's Industries.

Mr Carl F. Reinhardt has been made vice-president (regional) at Bank of America Europe, Middle East and Africa Division headquarters in London.

Mr G. Malcolm Murray has become a director of Edinburgh and Dundee Investment.

## Business to Business

**Business Opportunities**

CAPITAL INVESTMENT required by an established reproduction furniture manufacturer and importer to carry through a comprehensive expansion. Directorship and equity offered. See 2064 P, The Times.

**BUSINESSMAN ON MIDDLE EAST** through February, able to undertake commission—Telephone 01-649 1764.

**PROFESSIONAL BUSINESSMAN** Jan/Feb willing to undertake commission—Telephone 01-408 2190.

**PHOTOGRAPHER / JOURNALIST** spending six months in South America and weeks in continental Europe—See 2064 P, The Times.

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**FULLY AUTOMATIC** roll-fed rubber plate copiers at the most competitive prices. City Office Equipment 075 6137. City Office Equipment 075 6137.

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**CONTRACTS AND TENDERS**

**GOVERNMENT OF MALAYSIA**  
**KUANTAN PORT, PAHANG**  
**TENDER NOTICE**

**CONTRACT FOR NAVIGATIONAL BUOYS OR TOWERS**

The Government of Malaysia invites tenders for the supply and installation of navigational buoys or towers for the new port being constructed fifteen miles north of Kuantan in the State of Pahang.

The Government of Malaysia has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the foreign exchange cost of the project and it is intended that the proceeds of the loan shall be applied to the foreign currency payments made under the contract. Such payments by ADB will be made only upon approval by ADB of application presented by the Government of Malaysia in accordance with the terms and conditions of the loan agreement and will be subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of that agreement. It is a requirement of the sub contract that goods and services to be used for, or in connection with the sub contract shall be manufactured and/or produced from member countries of ADB and Luxembourg only.

The contract comprises the supply and installation of the navigational aids at sea to mark the approaches to the new port.

The successful tenderer will become a nominated sub-contractor to one of the main contractors engaged on the project.

The supply and installation of these navigational aids is scheduled to be completed by February 1977.

Scope of contract—Alternative I

- The supply and installation of one tower and nine buoys
- Alternative II
- The supply and installation of five towers and three buoys
- Alternative III
- The supply and installation of seven towers

Tender documents may be obtained not later than 4th February 1977 from the consulting engineer and shall be given below on payment of a non-refundable deposit of M500.00 or DFL105.00 in the form of a cash payment or crossed cheque in favour of Bish and Partners, sent under registered cover.

The closing date of tenders shall be Friday, 1st April 1977.

**BISH & PARTNERS E.V.**  
**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**  
**P.O. BOX 2278**  
**2500 ROTTERDAM**  
**NETHERLANDS**

**CONTRACTS AND TENDERS**

**CARAIBA METAIS S.A. INDUSTRIA E COMERCIO**

**MINING AND COPPER SMELTER PROJECT**

**INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE TO SUPPLIERS OF ELECTRICAL MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT FOR COPPER MINING, CONCENTRATION AND METALLURGY FACILITIES CARAIBA METAIS S.A. INDUSTRIA E COMERCIO SHALL HOLD AN INTERNATIONAL TENDER FOR THE DESIGN, MANUFACTURE, SUPPLY AND ERECTION SUPERVISION OF THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED MINING, CONCENTRATION, AND PLANT AT, RESPECTIVELY, JARAGUARI AND CAMACARI MUNICIPALITIES, STATE OF BAHIA, BRAZIL.**

**GROUP 1: MINING**

Electrical and mechanical equipment for open pit and underground mining, water supply, laboratory, telecommunication system, 230 kv substation, emergency electric supply.

**GROUP 2: CONCENTRATION**

Electrical and mechanical equipment and sets of components for crushing, sampling, stacking and reclaiming, grinding, flotation, thickening and filtering, waste thickening and disposal, electric supply and instrumentation.

**GROUP 3: METALLURGY**

Electrical and mechanical equipment and sets of components for intake and sampling, concentrate drying, flash furnace, conversion, anode casting, electrolytic refining, cathode smelting, wire-bar casting, fire-rod casting, sulphuric acid plant, thermal power plant and emergency power generation, oxygen plant, maintenance shop, quality control, electric supply and instrumentation.

For payment of the above mentioned equipment, Caraiaba expects to count upon funds from

The Interamerican Development Bank—IDB, pursuant to a financing currently under negotiation.

Participation in the international tender to be held shall be limited to manufacturers having headquarters in the Interamerican Development Bank's member countries and/or in countries deemed as eligible by that financing agency. Interested suppliers are hereby invited to contact Caraiaba Metais S.A. Industria e Comercio through its consultant at the address below, until February 28th, 1977, to obtain additional information on the project and on the equipment to be bought and further to get acquainted with the requirements for suppliers' qualification.

**MILDER KAISER ENGENHARIA S.A.**  
**Avenida Rio Branco, 128, 13-Andar**  
**20.000 Rio de Janeiro, RJ.**  
**Brasil.**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY**  
**MANUFACTURERS DATA BASE (MDB)**

**INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE PURCHASE AND FIXING OF CEILING SYSTEMS**

The Department invites applications to tender for the purchase and fitting of proprietary suspended ceiling systems which are to be used in the Department's offices and in the Department's health centres. The tenderers are to be invited by a separate tender action. Both tenderers and the Department's health centres and their manufacturers and fixers in the MDB.

The ceiling systems will be made of dry construction, with jointed tiles and a finished membrane surface on completion will also be required.

The bids for selection will be the number of ceiling systems in the selected range (and the categories of ceiling performance which are a minimum of one Regional Health Authority area. A bid is required for each area which will be the tenderer's own approved list of the manufacturers concerned.

Price will also have an important influence on selection.

A detailed response to these criteria will be required from the tenderers. The response should include a list of the proposed arrangements and a list of the manufacturers and fixers in the selected range. The response should also include a list of the proposed arrangements and a list of the manufacturers and fixers in the selected range.

However, no guarantee can be given by the Department as to the value of any orders which may result from the proposed arrangements, or that any orders will be placed.

**MDB Office, Department of Health and Social Security**  
**Room 838, 286 Euston Road, London NW1 3DN**

**Place your message in The Times on Valentine's day**

On February 14th, there will be a special section in the Personal Columns devoted to Valentine messages. Once again The Times bears a Valentine's day offer to thrill the heart of your loved one.

Included in the cost we will send your Valentine, to arrive by 14th February, this year's new limited edition of love poems entitled 'Love' Supplied by Unirose, 'Love' contains a selection of 36 love poems printed on antique paper, written by some of the great love poets through the ages.

To ensure your message is read there will be a card with the book reading: "There is a Valentine's message for you in The Times"

The minimum size for your message is 3 lines (allow 28 characters including word spaces per line) for which the cost is £6.50, but, should you wish to extend your sweet-nothings, it will only cost you £2.00 for each additional line.

Complete the coupon below and return it with a cheque or postal order, made out to Times Newspapers Limited to:

The ASA Department, 4th Floor, The Times, P.O. Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

Place your message here (BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of proposed recipient: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Offer applies to U.K.

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## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Quadruple markets  
LAFD beat  
trade

## Index at six-month peak as buyers hold sway

The index reached its best level in six months as professional investors continued to take a longer term view of the progress.

The small profit-taking in the morning, but then came back later during trading to close up to 1 of a point up during business hours. In afternoon business, they gained further ground to end the day at a point up. Medium-term stocks did similarly well.

Undated government stocks also advanced, closing one sixteenth of a point up on the day's trading.

Of the "blue chips", by far the most outstanding performer was Fisons with a jump of 1 1/2 to 325p. Unilever, too, was in good form with a jump of 8p to 450p and there were useful rises from Glaxo 5p to 435p, Pilkington 5p to 310p, BAT 4p to 272p and ICI 3p to 260p.

This week's results continued to give strength to Rank, mentioned here and up 9p to 175p, while others to rise were International Computers, 9p to 171p, EMI, 7p to 233, Reynolds, 7p to 134p, the last named still pinning its hopes on a merger of its turbo interests.

Anglia continued to out-perform the television sector with a rise of 7p to 113p, but there was also firmness in Trident 36p, Scottish TV 25p and ATV 29p.

In foods, the initial reaction to figures from Tate & Lyle was one of slight disappointment, but the shares later rallied to close unchanged at 270p. Lyons

had a good session with a rise of 3p to 62p, Sainsbury continued in its recent strong form and added 2p to 156p, while Kwik Save firmed 3p to 140p.

In the oil sector, Burmah rose 4p to 60p on news of United States backing for its tanker loans and the shares have added 8p this week on the more favourable developments. BP gained just 2p to 816p, but Shell, 6p to 488p, were a strong market as were Ranger Oil, better by 8p to £19 on comment.

Spillers managed a gain of just 1p to 32 1/2p, despite a drop of stock losses on meat and truffles at the Wellingborough factory. Mr Michael Vernon, chairman, said: "Losses at Wellingborough were small and not unexpected, and our meat company, Meade-Laudite, will make record profits this year. In meat, all depends on business from week to week."

In a thin market, Atlantic Shipping were marked up 35p to 285p on speculative demand. Huntingdon 148p and Runciman 108p both rose 4p. A denial of a bid immediately clipped 2p from FMC which closed at an unchanged 68p. Spear & Jackson added 2p to 121p on the profits estimate forming part of its bid defence. Wilnot Breeden was another good market on talk that a stake was being built up and the shares closed 5 1/2p up, at 60p.

In engineers, the best were Hawker Siddeley 12p to 180p, Metal Box 6p to 276p, Tube Investments 6p to 334p, Staveley 6p to 177p and Simon 5p to 146p. Random features included Lead Industries, better by 5p to 149p, and Meat Trade Suppliers 8p to 88p.

In the financial sector, there were 5p rises from Lloyds 230p, Midland, 290p, and Barclays 285p. National Westminster ended just 2p to the good at 232p, but there was interest in some of the merchant banks like Guinness Peat 10p to 165p, L. Joseph 5p to 125p, Arbuthnot Latham 5p to 120p and Hambros 14p to 170p. Union Discount firmed 10p to 350p after this week's figures.

The best of selectively wanted properties were Land Securities up 8p to 152p, Haslemere 6p to 178p and Stock Conversion 5p to 183p. Insurances moved ahead, notably Royal 324p and General Accident 174p.

Ahead of figures today, Sidlaw rose 3p to 68p, while statements lowered Denbyware 2p to 76p, AJ Mills 2p to 53p, and Gestetner "A" 10p to 159p. Equity turnover on January 19 was £92.87m (19,357 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph, active stocks yesterday were Rank, BP, Burmah, ICI, Shell, Barclays, BAT Dfd and Ind, RTZ, Trust Houses Forte, Reynolds, Parsons, Glaxo, Boots, Bowater, Courtalds, Tate & Lyle, Land Securities FMC, Anglia TV and Delta Metal.

## Latest dividends

Company (and par value)	Ord div	Year	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Bullough (20p) Plc	2.57	2.87	1.3	5.01	4.56
Debiware Int	2.11	2.11	1.3	5.41	5.41
A. & J. Geller (20p) Int	1.12	0.35*	12.4	—	0.71*
Gesteiner Plc	1.78	1.65	—	3.53	3.21
Ballite Hoods (50p)	1.72	1.75	11.3	—	3.2
Hollis Bros (50p)	1.05	0.85	28.2	—	3.6
Ldn & Montrose (25p)	1.0	1.0	1.4	—	4.5
Marston, Thompson (25p)	0.68	0.62	25.2	—	1.51
A. J. Mills (25p) Plc	1.63	1.45	14.3	2.73	2.48
Port & Sand Newt	0.87	0.87	28.2	—	2.54
Tate (10p) Plc	Nil	0.4	—	Nil	0.8
Tate & Lyle (10p) Plc	3.7	3.6	4.4	11.8	10.8
Tate & Lyle (10p) Plc	2.2	2.2	4.4	—	—
Warner Estate (25p)	1.18	0.69†	8.3	2.38	3.3†
Western Board (10p) Int	1.1	1.0	10.3	—	3

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. \* Adjusted for scrip. † For 18 months.

## Next year's payment pear's latest bait

Mr Allen already promised a dividend increase in respect of 1976.

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## Recovery at Hollis Bros is gathering pace

By Tony May

Better trading in the timber division of Hollis Bros & E.S.A. powered pre-tax profits by 61 per cent to £1.1m in the six months to September 30.

So they are already ahead of the 1985,000 brought in over the whole of 1975-76. The question is how far the group can go towards equaling the record £3.25m brought in over 1973-74.

Turnover jumped from £15.72m to £19.9m. Shareholders are to receive a dividend of 1.62p gross against 1.47p. The board of this timber importer, sawmiller, flooring contractor, woodworking manufacturer and education equipment maker, expects to pay the maximum for the year.

The good results earned the shares a 1p rise to 44p yesterday, to make a 6p gain over the week.

Mr R. D. Guthrie, chairman, says that stocks are balanced to meet current and foreseeable trading requirements. Government policy led to cutbacks in the education field, but Mr Guthrie says that adequate measures have been taken by the group to meet the new conditions.

Export potential continues to develop and diversification continues. So the board looks for an outlook that will compare favourably with that for 1975-76.

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## ENKA headway in slicing losses

Though losses at Enka Glaxo, expressed in millions of florins, continued to run into three figures last year, the group made substantial progress towards returning to profitability, writes Peter Norman from Bonn.

Dr H. G. Zempelin, Enka's chief executive, said that the group in 1976 achieved a three-figure million guilders reduction in its deficit.

The final results of Akzo's multinational man-made fibre subsidiary will be released later this year at the same time as those of its parent company. However, Dr Zempelin was able to disclose that in cutting back losses from 1975's 500m florin level, the Enka group reduced its fixed cost burden in 1976 by 120m florins.

Therefore Enka's board is confident that it will be able to reduce losses still further in 1977 and meet its goal of returning the group to the black in 1978 at the latest.

If this is the case, it will be the result of a thoroughgoing rationalization and restructuring of the group. Dr Zempelin made it clear that Enka does not expect any significant improvement in the market for chemical fibres.

At present Enka is in the process of exhausting internal possibilities for rationalization, is abandoning manufacture of those products which make and are likely to make heavy losses, and is switching output within specific product groups to profitable lines.

In the group as a whole there has been a significant switch in importance away from textile fibres and yarns to

industrial yarns and non-fibre activities.

Whereas textile fibres and yarns accounted for 62 per cent of turnover in 1970, their share of sales had fallen to only 46 per cent by last year. A further reduction in textile fibre business to 40 per cent of turnover by 1980 is planned.

For Enka the attractions of the industrial yarn and non-textile fibre and yarn business

The revival of the economic cycle in the first six months of 1976, with sales rising 9 per cent, levelled off appreciably in the second half, the group said.

Earnings were still "greatly affected by persistently unfavourable currency-exchange rates". The upturn in profit was not only because of increased sales, but also because of its "overall strategy aimed at boosting efficiency".

Non-accrual and reduced rate loans, though down from 1973 levels, also depressed net interest income. It went down \$65.1m from \$1,190m in 1975.

Foreign exchange trading profits were \$47.4m against \$45m, but investment securities transactions brought a net gain of \$11.3m in 1976, all in the fourth quarter. The year before it made a gain of \$17.1m on securities transactions.

For the whole of 1976, net charge-offs rose from \$25m to \$26m. The majority continues to be identified with domestic lending activities, totalling \$175.5m against \$224.3m. Of the total 1976 charge-offs, those property-related represented \$122m against \$103m.—Reuter.

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## Cut out your export problems

To: John Gardner, General Manager (Group Development), London American Finance Corporation Limited, Walker House, 87 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4AP. Tel: 01-236 6544. Telex: 887305.

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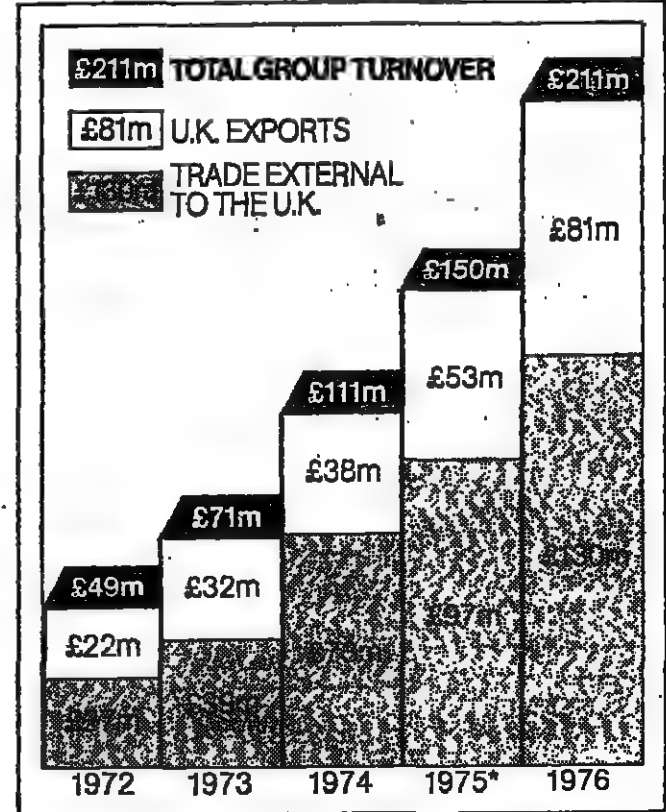
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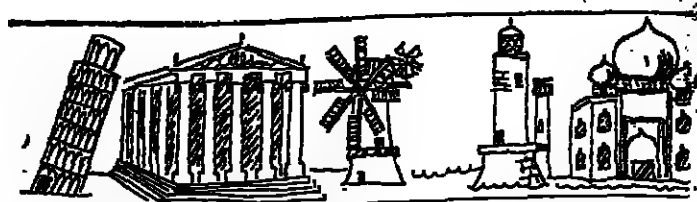
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## A touch of enchantment

When I was five my ambition in life was to be a prima ballerina. A commonplace ambition, I grant you; but in my case it has been given additional impetus by a visit from cold, bleak postwar Lancashire to London, the highlight of which was an evening at Sadler's Wells. And well do I remember it: the darkness of the balcony, the curtains rising on, oh, such a wonderland! Such castles, all spires and turrets and battlements; such vistas of gardens and meadows; such enchanted forests; and such a golden sunshine over all. I remember, too, the disorienting return to reality afterwards, with the slow realization that none of it existed; and the almost equally disorienting discovery, a decade later on, that on the contrary, it did.

That discovery was made the first time I set foot in the Dordogne, where it seems that every contour of the land, every clump of chateau and manor house, would provide a perfect stage set for the Sleeping Beauty. For those who have the wherewithal, as well as the will, to adopt the role of a lamb, day prince or princess, I should say that a visit to Knight Frank & Rutley was indispensable.

Knight Frank & Rutley has a vast list of properties in the Dordogne, many of which would provide an excellent setting. There is, for example, one chateau amply provided with towers and turrets some 13 km from Angoulême; its other attractions include what the agents describe as a magnificent double staircase and a beautiful chapel. There is the normal run of reception rooms, bedrooms, two with Louis XV fireplaces, bath-rooms and kitchen; and there is a vegetable garden, so that the new owners will be able to grow their own delectable produce.

For as the purchasers of chateaux go, the new owners of this one are likely to be people of quite modest means: the cost is approximately £139,000 plus purchaser's commission (negotiable at this level). Knight Frank & Rutley has another chateau in its books, in Périgord, with fifteenth-century origins and pretensions; and this one is going for about £300,000. And if the vistas of gardens and meadows are to be complemented by vistas of vineyards as well, prices will rise to £1m.

Having had my illusions temporarily shattered at the tender age of five, I lost very little time in transferring my ambitions, and spent several years riding the range in spirit, with the aid of liberal doses of Zane Grey and the occasional dash of Fanny Hill. Now it seems that there are no estate agents in a position to satisfy any aspirations stemming from Zane Grey: there are no ranches in Arizona or Colorado on the books. But Hampton's is now looking for buyers for a property that should please the most ardent fan of the last of the Mohicans: seven square miles of forested wilderness just north of Lake Superior. The place has four private lakes and is, from the sound of it, teeming with wild life; but humans are catered for with a lodge, four guest cabins, a bath house and a swimming pool. The asking price is £165m.

With the age of reason came an introduction to James Bond; and both Knight Frank & Rutley and Hampton's have any number of properties along the Riviera that would, I think, have pleased even his discriminating taste. Personally, I think that M—or M's employers—would have been interested in La Terrasse, a country house built in 1914 in eighteenth-century style, 12 miles from Geneva, and overlooking the lake which is now on the books at Savills. It has a reception hall, salon, dining room, study, nine bedrooms in all, and four bathrooms; it is

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Candidates (male/female), who should be professionally qualified with experience of modern pensions management, are invited to write in confidence for an application form to:

**Mr. F. P. Rhodes,**  
Manager, Group Personnel Services,  
British Aircraft Corporation,  
Brooklands Road,  
Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 0RN.

## AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

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Candidates for the appointment should possess a Master's degree or its equivalent in the field of Law. Salary scales (all inclusive) range from £10,000 to £15,000 p.a. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of Law to students of the Faculty of Law. Further particulars and application forms are available from the Registrar, University of Malaya, 1, Jalan Sultan, Kuala Lumpur. The closing date for the receipt of applications is 25 February 1977.

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### CHAIR OF METALLURGY

Applications are invited for a Chair of Metallurgy. Candidates should have a strong interest in and previous experience of the subject in industry. Salary in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 p.a. plus benefits. Further particulars and application forms are available from the Registrar, University of Sheffield, 1, Sheffield Hallam Street, Sheffield S1 1RN. The closing date for the receipt of applications is 25 February 1977.

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The College proposes to elect a Tutorial Fellow in Law to take up duties on 1 October 1977. Further particulars of the appointment, including conditions of service, are available from the Registrar, Exeter College, 1, Exeter College, Oxford. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, Exeter College, 1, Exeter College, Oxford. The closing date for the receipt of applications is 25 February 1977.

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British Gas wish to appoint an Assistant Secretary to their HQ at Marble Arch.

You will take responsibility for a wide range of important work relating to the administration and co-ordination of the Gas Industry at national level. This will include liaison with Government departments like the Department of Energy with whose enquiries about parliamentary questions you will be dealing.

Other matters of direct concern will be legislation and tariffs. You will also be involved with consumers' councils and with such bodies as the Select Committee on Nationalised Industries.

You must have a suitable degree or professional qualification and several years' appropriate experience including responsibility at a high level.

Application forms can be obtained from the Personnel Manager, British Gas, 59 Bryanston Street, London W1A 2AZ, quoting reference CH/212801/TT. Closing date for applications January 31st.

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The appointment calls for a high degree of administrative and organisational ability, since the successful candidate would, as a member of the Station Directorate, be expected to be involved in the strategic planning of all Research and Development and Technical Service activities within the Station. Proven ability in the management of staff is essential. Candidates should have a degree or equivalent, in either Accountancy, Law, Engineering or Science.

Salary within range £7926-£9495. Please write with full details of age, qualifications, experience and current salary, quoting reference RD 800201/ERS/TT, to the Personnel Manager (HQ), British Gas, 59 Bryanston Street, London W1A 2AZ. Closing date for applications 3rd February.

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The Bowater Corporation, an international manufacturing organisation, invites applications from persons aged 35/45 years interested in joining the Secretariat in its London Head Office. A secretarial or accountancy qualification is a requirement, as is extensive similar experience over a period of some years.

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To be responsible to the Head of Programmes, for the organisation and planning of either television or radio programmes, training, finance, programme administration, staff management and the day-to-day running of services.

Candidates, between 25 and 50, must have at least six years' experience of programme production and administration. Knowledge of film and video techniques is required for the television appointment and staff training experience is desirable. Experience in local radio would be an advantage for the radio appointment.

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Please write with full details of qualifications, experience, age and present salary to:  
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35/38 Portman Square, London, W1H 0BN.  
Attention: P. Thackray.

## Severn Trent Water Authority

### Appointment of Director of Operations

The Water Authority, which is the second largest in England and Wales, invites applications from suitably qualified persons for the appointment of Director of Operations to succeed Mr D. A. D. Reeve who will become Chief Executive of the Authority on 1st June 1977 on the retirement of Mr J. F. Beeson, C.B.

The person appointed will be required to take a full part in the corporate management of the Authority under the leadership of the Chief Executive and in conjunction with the Directors of Administration, Finance and Scientific Services.

The Director of Operations is responsible for co-ordinating water conservation and supply, sewerage and water reclamation, river management and land drainage operations in a region having an area of 5,500 square miles and a population of some 8½ million, the greater part of which is centred on the East and West Midlands conurbation. The management of operations is carried out through 3 multi-functional divisions based on the catchment of the River Severn and 5 on that of the River Trent.

Candidates should have a proven record of achievement in management in a large scale organisation, covering technical operations in undertakings including substantial capital works schemes, staffed mainly by engineers, scientists and technicians with support services. In particular he/she should be capable of motivating staff at all levels and must be able to work in harmony with his/her colleagues in his/her involvement as a corporate team member, in the total function of the Authority and in the formulation of its long term objectives.

It is possible that the successful applicant may be offered a contract for a term of years. The salary for the post will be fully in keeping with its demands and responsibilities.

Application forms for return by 15th February 1977 are available with further details from the Chairman's Office, Severn Trent Water Authority, Abchurch House, 229 Coventry Road, Sheldon, Birmingham B26 3PU.

**RE-ADVERTISEMENT**

## Dean of Faculty of Art and Design

### Sunderland Polytechnic

The Faculty currently has two Departments, Fine Art and Applied Studies in Art and Design. Candidates are sought whose academic qualifications and past experience will enable them to give significant leadership in course development, research in its broadest sense and the administration and development of the Faculty. Experience in some area of Applied Studies in Art and Design will be a real overriding advantage, as will be the ability or potential to make a contribution outside the Faculty, both to the Polytechnic and the community at large.

The salary is £7,963 per annum scale. An application form and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Sunderland Polytechnic, Chester Road, Sunderland SR1 3SD, and should be returned as soon as possible.

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United Racecourses Limited invite applications for the position of Managing Director who will be entirely responsible for the efficient running and maintenance of their three major metropolitan racecourses and for the promotion and control of all ancillary activities. The appointment will be from October 1st.

The successful applicant will have detailed knowledge of horse racing and preferably some experience in racecourse management.

A salary of £9,000 plus will apply together with a Company car, contributory pension scheme and assistance with relocation cost.

Please apply in strictest confidence with full curriculum and two references not later than February 11th to:-

**The Secretary**  
**United Racecourses Limited**  
Racecourse Paddock  
Epsom, Surrey.  
Position open to either male or female persons.



## CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION

### Academic Relations Officer

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons having a broad knowledge of the British educational structure at secondary and tertiary levels. Experience and/or education in Canada an advantage; good working knowledge of English and French essential.

Duties involve the development of a programme of Canadian Studies in Britain, including administration, promotional activities, negotiations with educational institutions, expansion of existing contacts and the initiation of new links in the educational field.

The position will be of interest to persons already earning over £6,000 per annum.

Further details and application forms should be obtained from the Canadian High Commission, Personnel Division, Macdonald House, 1 Grosvenor Square, London, W.1 (quoting Ref: 77/2/E). Completed forms together with a detailed curriculum vitae including the names and addresses of two referees should be returned not later than FRIDAY, 4th FEBRUARY, 1977.

## Symphony Orchestra

### (London based)

will shortly require a

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